

*If your enemy is hungry, give him food to eat; if he is thirsty, give him water to drink. In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head, and the LORD will reward you. Proverbs 25:21-22 (NIV)*

## **It's Your Move**

**Will you take the first step? Will you make the first move?** What first step? What first move? **Will you reach out to your enemy? Will you do something extraordinarily nice for someone who regards you as their enemy? Will you think deeply about the needs of your enemy and then go meet them?** That sounds quite risky? I don't even want to get close to my enemy. I would much prefer to keep a safe distance from my enemy. **I did not ask you about your preferences. I asked you if you would make the first step and take the first move to do something extraordinarily nice for your enemy.** Is that what you are asking me to do? Is that what you want me to do for you? **Yes, that is what I want you to do for me?** What if my enemy spurns my efforts? What if they reject my outreach? It would be humbling enough to do something nice for my enemy. **Why is that?** They certainly wouldn't deserve anything nice from me. My enemy has continually tried to harm me. They have attacked me at every turn. I have been deeply hurt and wounded by my enemy. They have caused me a great deal of pain. Why should I have to make the first move. I am the aggrieved and innocent party. **You think so?** Well, I may not be totally innocent.

**You are right. There is no good reason for you to do something extraordinarily nice for your enemy except that I am asking you to do this for me. Were you not once living as my enemy?** Yes, I once lived as your enemy. **Did you deserve all that I have done for you?** No, I did not and have not deserved all that you have done for me. **Did you readily accept me? Didn't you initially spurn my efforts to reach out to you?** Yes, I did initially spurn what you had done for me. **Didn't I humble myself and die on the cross for you?** Yes, you died on the cross for my sins. **Are you willing to humble yourself and do what I am asking of you?** Yes, I am willing to go and do what you are asking of me. I will humble myself and offer my service to my enemy. **That will be very good. In humbling yourself you will be my witness. Your enemy will see my love shining through your life. They may even become my follower and your friend. Wouldn't that be spectacular? We could celebrate that together.** Yes, that would be quite a celebration. **It's your move.**

*Lord, I want to be a vibrant witness for you. Help me to reach out to anyone who regards me as their enemy. Show me how you I can express your kindness to even those who are my enemies. Help me to turn enemies into friends as I help them with their needs. Amen*

**Give** *Your Enemy*

If your enemy is hungry, give him food to eat; if he is thirsty, give him water to drink. In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head, and the LORD will reward you.

NIV Proverbs 25:21-22

**Give** *Your Enemy*

If your enemy is hungry, give him bread to eat, and if he is thirsty, give him water to drink, for you will heap burning coals on his head, and the LORD will reward you.

ESV Proverbs 25:21-22

**Give** *Your Enemies*

If your enemies are hungry, give them food to eat. If they are thirsty, give them water to drink. You will heap burning coals of shame on their heads, and the LORD will reward you.

NLT Proverbs 25:21-22

**Give** *Your Enemy*

If your enemy is hungry, give him bread to eat; And if he is thirsty, give him water to drink; For so you will heap coals of fire on his head, And the LORD will reward you.

NKJV Proverbs 25:21-22

**Give** *Your Enemies*

If your enemies are hungry, give them bread to eat; and if they are thirsty, give them water to drink; for you will heap coals of fire on their heads, and the LORD will reward you.

NRSV Proverbs 25:21-22

**Give** *Your Enemy*

If you see your enemy hungry, go buy him lunch; if he's thirsty, bring him a drink. Your generosity will surprise him with goodness, and GOD will look after you.

MSG Proverbs 25:21-22

**Give** *Your Enemy*

If your enemy is hungry, give him bread to eat; and if he is thirsty, give him water to drink; For in doing so, you will heap coals of fire upon his head, and the Lord will reward you.

AMP Proverbs 25:21-22

**Give** *Your Enemy*

If your enemy is hungry, give him food! If he is thirsty, give him something to drink! This will make him feel ashamed of himself, and God will reward you.

TLB Proverbs 25:21-22

**Give** *Your Enemy*

If your enemy is hungry, give him food to eat; And if he is thirsty, give him water to drink; For you will heap burning coals on his head, And the LORD will reward you.

NASB Proverbs 25:21-22

**Give** *Your Enemy*

If your enemy is hungry, feed him. If he is thirsty, give him a drink. Doing this will be like pouring burning coals on his head, and the LORD will reward you.

NCV Proverbs 25:21-22

# Your Enemy

Year \_\_\_\_\_ Week \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Give** – Proverbs 25:21-22

**In Context:** *Read Proverbs 25*

**Begin With Prayer:**

***Here I am Lord. I Am Listening.***

**Meditating On God's Word:** ***(What is God speaking to your heart?)***

If your enemy is hungry, give him food to eat; if he is thirsty, give him water to drink. In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head, and the LORD will reward you. Proverbs 25:21-22

**Considering The Words:** ***(What words speak to your heart?)***

If | your enemy | is hungry, | give him | food to eat; | if he | is thirsty, | give him | water | to drink. | In doing this, | you will | heap | burning coals | on his head, | and | the LORD | will | reward you. Proverbs 25:21-22

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**Praying The Scripture:**

***(What prayer from your heart will you write?)***

Lord, I want to be a vibrant witness for you. Help me to reach out to anyone who regards me as their enemy. Show me how you I can express your kindness to even those who are my enemies. Help me to turn enemies into friends as I help them with their needs. Amen

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**What It Means:**

***(What questions speak to your heart?)*** *(Suggested questions for small group discussion are in bold)*

Who might consider you to be their enemy?

**How might it be possible to turn an enemy into a friend?**

Why is it your responsibility to take the first step toward reaching out in kindness to an enemy?

**When have you treated an enemy with extraordinary kindness?**

How might an enemy react to an extraordinary act of kindness on your part?

**How can your reaching out in kindness to an enemy be a strong testimony for the Lord through you?**

What blessings has the Lord brought into your life as you have treated enemies with kindness?

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**Living It Out:**

***(What action step is God guiding your heart to take?)***

Ask the Lord to give you opportunities to show His kindness to someone who regards you as their enemy.

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**Seeing It Happen:**

***(What are you trusting God for in your heart?)***

Have faith that the Lord will help you to be a witness for Him by showing His kindness to an enemy.

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**Get Ready To Share:**

***(What can you share with others from your heart?)***

Share with another person or your small group a time when you have shown the Lord's kindness to an enemy.

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**Close With Prayer:**

***Quiet Yourself Before The Lord***

*Pause And Offer Prayers Of...*

*With An Attitude Of Faith Listen To What The Lord Wants To Say To You*

Adoration... \_\_\_\_\_

Thanksgiving... \_\_\_\_\_

Confession... \_\_\_\_\_

Intercession... \_\_\_\_\_

Petition... \_\_\_\_\_

**Journal**

*As You Quiet Yourself Before The Lord*

**What Do You Want To Say To Me Lord?**

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**What Prayers Are You Praying Today?**

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**Prayer Of Blessing**

*(What Prayer Of Blessing Can You Pray For Another?)*

*May you do the Lord's will by meeting the needs of your enemy.*

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**Prayer To Carry**

*(What Prayer Would You Like To Carry Throughout Your Day?)*

*Lord, I will do your will by meeting the needs of my enemies.*

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**What Do You Want To Remember About Today?**

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**A Question To Ask God**

*(What Would You Like To Ask God?)*

*Lord, how can I do your will and meet the needs of my enemies today?*

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