

*"But I tell you who hear me: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you. If someone strikes you on one cheek, turn to him the other also. If someone takes your cloak, do not stop him from taking your tunic. Give to everyone who asks you, and if anyone takes what belongs to you, do not demand it back. Do to others as you would have them do to you. Luke 6:27-31 (NIV)*

## **Your Example**

**I am speaking to you. Are you listening to me?** Yes, I am listening to you. **How will we both know for sure that you are really listening to me?** That easy to determine. **How so?** If I am really listening to you, I will do what you are asking of me. I will put into practice what you are showing me. I will follow your example. I will do what you did. I will live as you lived. **That is a very good answer to my question. What am I saying to you right now? What am I asking of you right now? What example are you seeing in me right now?** You are asking me to live unlike those in the world live. You are asking me to go against every human and earthly and natural instinct that I have within me. **How so?** When someone is my enemy, I want to be on guard against them. I don't want to give them any opportunity to harm me. I want all my defenses to be up when I encounter an enemy. I especially don't want to extend any kindness and mercy and love to an enemy. Far from it, I want to get even with every one of my enemies. My human and earthly and natural desires call for an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth with anyone who has hated, cursed, or mistreated me. **That is not how I lived. That is not the life that I am calling you to live.** Yes, I know. So, it will be very easy to determine if I am really listening to you. My old human and earthly and natural life looks nothing like the life you are calling me to live. **No, it does not.** You are calling to live a godly, spiritual and supernatural life that will stand out as a bold and bright witness for you in the world. You want me to love my enemies. You want me to do good to those who hate me. You want me to bless those who curse me. You want me to pray for those mistreat me. You want me to treat others just how I would like to be treated. **Yes, I do.** I am excited about living this kind of life. I will happily listen to you. I will joyfully follow your example. **Why is that? What is the cause of your excitement, happiness and joy?** I know that you will help me to live this kind of life. You will make me able to live like you lived. You will cause me to be a bold and bright witness for you in the world. **Yes, I will.** Nothing is better than that. **Listen to me and follow my example.** Yes Lord, I will. **That is very good.**

*Lord, I am listening. I will follow your example. I will do what you have done. I will love my enemies. I will do good to those who hate me. I will bless those who curse me. I will pray for those who mistreat me. I will do to others what I would like done to me. Amen*

### **Becoming Like Christ** *Love Your Enemies*

"But I tell you who hear me: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you. If someone strikes you on one cheek, turn to him the other also. If someone takes your cloak, do not stop him from taking your tunic. Give to everyone who asks you, and if anyone takes what belongs to you, do not demand it back. Do to others as you would have them do to you.

NIV Luke 6:27-31

### **Becoming Like Christ** *Love Your Enemies*

"But to you who are willing to listen, I say, love your enemies! Do good to those who hate you. Bless those who curse you. Pray for those who hurt you. If someone slaps you on one cheek, offer the other cheek also. If someone demands your coat, offer your shirt also. Give to anyone who asks; and when things are taken away from you, don't try to get them back. Do to others as you would like them to do to you.

NLT Luke 6:27-31

### **Becoming Like Christ** *Love Your Enemies*

"But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. Do to others as you would have them do to you.

NRSV Luke 6:27-31

### **Becoming Like Christ** *Love Your Enemies*

But I say to you who are listening now to Me: [in order to heed, make it a practice to] love your enemies, treat well (do good to, act nobly toward) those who detest you and pursue you with hatred, Invoke blessings upon and pray for the happiness of those who curse you, implore God's blessing (favor) upon those who abuse you [who revile, reproach, disparage, and high-handedly misuse you]. To the one who strikes you on the jaw or cheek, offer the other jaw or cheek also; and from him who takes away your outer garment, do not withhold your undergarment as well. Give away to everyone who begs of you [who is in want of necessities], and of him who takes away from you your goods, do not demand or require them back again. And as you would like and desire that men would do to you, do exactly so to them.

AMP Luke 6:27-31

### **Becoming Like Christ** *Love Your Enemies*

"But I say to you who hear, love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you. "Whoever hits you on the cheek, offer him the other also; and whoever takes away your coat, do not withhold your shirt from him either. "Give to everyone who asks of you, and whoever takes away what is yours, do not demand it back. "Treat others the same way you want them to treat you.

NASB Luke 6:27-31

### **Becoming Like Christ** *Love Your Enemies*

"But I say to you who hear, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. To one who strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also, and from one who takes away your cloak do not withhold your tunic either. Give to everyone who begs from you, and from one who takes away your goods do not demand them back. And as you wish that others would do to you, do so to them.

ESV Luke 6:27-31

### **Becoming Like Christ** *Love Your Enemies*

"But I say to you who hear: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, and pray for those who spitefully use you. To him who strikes you on the one cheek, offer the other also. And from him who takes away your cloak, do not withhold your tunic either. Give to everyone who asks of you. And from him who takes away your goods do not ask them back. And just as you want men to do to you, you also do to them likewise.

NKJV Luke 6:27-31

### **Becoming Like Christ** *Love Your Enemies*

"To you who are ready for the truth, I say this: Love your enemies. Let them bring out the best in you, not the worst. When someone gives you a hard time, respond with the energies of prayer for that person. If someone slaps you in the face, stand there and take it. If someone grabs your shirt, giftwrap your best coat and make a present of it. If someone takes unfair advantage of you, use the occasion to practice the servant life. No more tit-for-tat stuff. Live generously. "Here is a simple rule of thumb for behavior: Ask yourself what you want people to do for you; then grab the initiative and do it for them!

MSG Luke 6:27-31

### **Becoming Like Christ** *Love Your Enemies*

"Listen, all of you. Love your enemies. Do good to those who hate you. Pray for the happiness of those who curse you; implore God's blessing on those who hurt you. "If someone slaps you on one cheek, let him slap the other too! If someone demands your coat, give him your shirt besides. Give what you have to anyone who asks you for it; and when things are taken away from you, don't worry about getting them back. Treat others as you want them to treat you.

TLB Luke 6:27-31

### **Becoming Like Christ** *Love Your Enemies*

"But I say to you who are listening, love your enemies. Do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who are cruel to you. If anyone slaps you on one cheek, offer him the other cheek, too. If someone takes your coat, do not stop him from taking your shirt. Give to everyone who asks you, and when someone takes something that is yours, don't ask for it back. Do to others what you would want them to do to you.

NCV Luke 6:27-31

# Love Your Enemies

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

**Becoming Like Christ** – Luke 6:27-31

**In Context:** *Read Luke 6*

**Begin With Prayer:**

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

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

"But I tell you who hear me: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you. If someone strikes you on one cheek, turn to him the other also. If someone takes your cloak, do not stop him from taking your tunic. Give to everyone who asks you, and if anyone takes what belongs to you, do not demand it back. Do to others as you would have them do to you. Luke 6:27-31 (NIV)

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

"But I tell you | who hear me: | Love your enemies, | do good | to those who hate you, | bless those | who curse you, | pray for those | who mistreat you. | If someone strikes you | on one cheek, | turn to him | the other also. | If someone takes | your cloak, | do not stop him | from taking | your tunic. | Give to everyone | who asks you, | and if | anyone takes | what belongs to you, | do not demand | it back. | Do to others | as you would | have them | do | to you. Luke 6:27-31 (NIV)

**Praying The Scripture:** ***(What prayer from your heart will you write?)***

Lord, I am listening. I will follow your example. I will do what you have done. I will love my enemies. I will do good to those who hate me. I will bless those who curse me. I will pray for those who mistreat me. I will do to others what I would like done to me. Amen

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

**How are you making yourself attentive to what the Lord wants to say to you?**

**How are you making every effort to follow the Lord's example?**

How are you going out of your way to love your enemies?

When have you done something good to someone who hated you?

How have you blessed someone who has cursed you?

What prayers are you praying for those who mistreat you?

**How are you treating others just as you would like to be treated?**

**Living It Out:** ***(What action step is God guiding your heart to take?)***

Love your enemies and do good to those who have hated, cursed or mistreated you.

**Seeing It Happen:** ***(What are you trusting God for in your heart?)***

Have faith that the Lord will help you to love your enemies.

**Get Ready To Share:** ***(What can you share with others from your heart?)***

Share with another person or your small group how loving an enemy has turned them into a friend.

**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 listen to the Lord and follow His example by loving your enemies.*

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**Prayer To Carry**

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

*Lord, I will listen to you and follow your example by loving 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 follow your example and love my enemies today?*

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