

Home Group Discussion Questions

Sunday March 13th

Luke 6:27-36

Ice-breaker: What's the kindest thing someone's ever done for you? (If you can remember!)

Question: Was there anything that particularly spoke to you in the sermon this Sunday? Or that you disagreed with or were confused about?

Read the passage: Luke 6:27-36

Intro and Summary:

This Sunday we considered Jesus' call to love your enemies. In his sermon Martin focused on:

Who should we love? – Love's reach towards

- **Your enemy**
- **The needy**
- **The different.**

Why should we love like this? – Love's Reason

How can we love like this? – Love's Resource

Who should we love? Your enemy

Question: Read **Romans 12:18** and **Hebrews 12:14**. Is it ever acceptable for a Christian to have an enemy? How do you know when you have a wrong attitude to someone? What do you do when you become aware of that?

Martin said "Jesus isn't calling us to just some kind of emotional love like 'think nice thoughts towards your enemies and everything will be ok!" Neither is it a 'love' that pretends everything is right with the world.

Question: So, how can we practically live out love for an enemy? What form would such love take?

Question: Do you think implementing what Jesus says here will result in Christians being 'walked over' as they love their enemies? Why do we find such an idea distasteful? Are we right to find it distasteful? To what degree should we avoid being 'walked over' and how might we do so?

Question: do you have any examples from your own life of where prayer and a Christ-like attitude to an enemy has transformed the situation?

Who should we love? The needy

Question: Do you see "turning the other cheek" and giving your enemy your tunic as literal, figurative, or hyperbole? What is the point Jesus is making here?

Question: There are many needy people around us. Who should we give to? Should we give to all who beg of us, even if they will abuse it?

Question: How could the most loving thing sometimes be to not give?

Who should we love? The different

Question: When Jesus talks about 'sinners' loving their own, we can interpret that as it being easy to love those who are like us, who are in our group. Jesus' point is that we are also to love those outside our 'group'. Who are these people and why may it be difficult to love them?

Why should we love like this? – Love's Reason

Question: What are some potential motivations people have in living a sacrificial life? What is the reason for living like this that Jesus gives here?

Question: Why is loving your enemy so much like divine love?

How can we love like this? – Love's Resource

Question: Why might God's love for His enemies be a powerful motivator for us to love?

Question: Read **Romans 5:5** and **Galatians 5:22**. Is it possible for us to love like God loves?