

Loving Like Jesus

Luke 6:27-36 [Page 1601]

Personal ChallengeFrom *Forgiveness* by Gary Inrig

1. Are you willing to trade in your sense of righteousness and self-dependence for God's forgiveness that comes through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ?
2. Are you willing to trade your resentment over the wrongs done to you for the freedom of forgiveness? This will mean putting into God's hands the judgment of those who have wronged you and resigning any right to be involved in the process.
3. Are you willing to allow God alone, not your adversary, to be the one who controls and directs your life? Forgiveness is a declaration of your confidence in your Lord's ability to accomplish what is good and just on your behalf.
4. Are you willing to "live a life of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God" [Eph. 5:2]? One hopes the offender will repent, and there will be significant restoration and reconciliation. But even if he does not, we are called to love our enemies and to pray for those who mistreat us [Luke 6:27-28]. The way to the cross is our path, whatever the offender's response.
5. Are you willing to embrace the future rather than clinging to the past, ruminating over the wrongs that have been done?

A. Loving as Jesus loves means... [27-30]

1. _____ our _____
2. _____ to those who _____ us.
3. _____ those who _____ us.
4. _____ for those who _____ us.

B. Living the Golden Rule. [31-34]**C. Walking with Jesus means... [35-36]**

1. _____ as _____ has _____ you.
2. _____ as an _____ of _____ to God.
3. Being _____, just as your _____ is _____

Personal Study/Growth Group Discussion Questions

Digging Deeper:

Read Luke 6:27-36.

1. What specifically are we to do to our enemies?
2. How does this description of love challenge you?
3. Have you ever shown love to an enemy in the way Jesus calls us to? How did you do that, and what was the outcome?
4. Review the Personal Challenge included in this Growth Group Guide. As a group, share with each other how you can encourage one another to love and forgive in this way.

Taking it Home:

1. What “enemy” is God calling you to love, forgive, and be merciful toward?

Prayer Concerns: