

BIBLE DISCUSSION GROUP STUDY QUESTIONS

In preparation for Sunday, December 8, 2024

Passage: Luke 6:27-36

Memory Passage: Luke 6:27-28

DAY 1 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Luke 6:27-36.** After reading this passage, write down several basic questions (Who? What? When? Where?) and several powerful questions (How? Why?). What are some observations you have made about this passage? Do you notice any repeated words, phrases, or ideas? If so, what are they?
- (b) What are the units of thought that form the structure of this text? (Hint: Consider the variations in ideas throughout the passage.) Summarize each unit of thought that you find in one sentence.

DAY 2 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Luke 6:27-36.** Jesus' audience has expanded to the whole crowd with the statement, "But I say to you who hear." Why does Jesus now address everyone instead of just the disciples?
- (b) **Read Exod 23:4-5; Lev 19:18; Prov 25:21-22.** How do Jesus' teachings align with or differ from the Mosaic law known to his Jewish audience?
- (c) When you consider Jesus' original audience — Jews under Roman oppression — how does His command to "love your enemies" challenge the listening crowd? In what ways does this impact your understanding of Jesus' teaching in this passage?
- (d) How do the divine reversals presented in the Beatitudes and Woes shape your understanding of Jesus' command to love your enemies and to be merciful?

DAY 3 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Luke 6:27-36.** Do verses 29-30 instruct us to passively allow others to abuse us? Explain your answer. In what ways do these two verses deepen the meaning of loving one's enemies?
- (b) Verse 31 presents what many call "The Golden Rule." How does this verse relate to the verses before and after it?

- (c) How does applying “The Golden Rule” affect the way we approach conflicts or difficult relationships in our daily lives?

DAY 4 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Luke 6:27-36.** In verses 32-34, we see the repeated phrase “for even sinners” or “even sinners.” What is this repetition emphasizing? In what ways does this repetition challenge you to live in a way that is distinct from the world?
- (b) How have you been tempted toward self-serving love this week? What steps can you take to love and serve others selflessly this week?
- (c) What would it look like if Christ only loved those who loved Him? Or if He only did good to those who did good to Him? How does this challenge your approach to loving your enemies?

DAY 5 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Luke 6:27-36.** Jesus commands His followers in verse 28 to pray for those who mistreat them. How does this challenge your prayer life? In what specific ways can you incorporate this practice into your prayers?
- (b) Verse 36 calls us to be merciful as the Father is merciful; list five ways that we see God’s mercy displayed in Scripture. How can you reflect that kind of mercy to others?
- (c) The commands in this passage are undeniably difficult. How does the hope of the gospel and our reliance on Christ help us persevere in loving our enemies and showing kindness and generosity, even when it is difficult or unreciprocated?

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Loving Your Enemies