

## Love for Enemies - Luke 6:27-36

**Topics:** Actions, Blessing, Choices, Differences, Direction, Enemies, Forgiveness, Instructions, Insults, Love, Mercy, Opposition, Relationships, Revenge, Unfairness

### Open It

1. Why do people often call revenge “sweet”?
2. If you took a public opinion poll on the meaning of the Golden Rule, what would you expect to hear?
- \* 3. Who have been some of your enemies through the years?

### Explore It

4. How many positive responses to mistreatment did Jesus command? (6:27-31)
- \* 5. What different kinds of mistreatment did Jesus refer to in His commands? (6:28-30)
6. Which statement best summarizes what Jesus said about responding to enemies? (6:31)
7. How did Jesus explain the difference between His followers and those He called “sinners”? (6:32-34)
- \* 8. About what three positive actions did Jesus ask, “What credit is that to you?” (6:32-34)
9. What was Jesus’ basic argument in backing up His command to love others unconditionally? (6:32-35)
- \* 10. What results will those who practice loving their enemies obtain? (6:35)
11. What title did Jesus give to those who love their enemies? (6:35)
12. Who are we imitating when we love our enemies? (6:36)

### Get It

13. According to this passage, what are the observable differences between “sinners” and “saints”?
- \* 14. What does it mean to “bless those who curse you”?
15. Why was Jesus so critical of conditional love?
16. Why is treating others as you wish to be treated called the Golden Rule?
17. Which of Jesus commands do you think goes most against human nature?
18. What does it take for a person to live the way Jesus described here?
19. When is forgiveness most difficult to give?
20. How did Jesus in this sermon say His followers were to be distinctly different from the ordinary pattern?
- \* 21. What is realistic or unrealistic about the kind of love Jesus wants us to show?

### Apply It

22. To what enemy in your life can you show a gesture of love?
- \* 23. How can you remember to do good to someone who is unkind to you this week?