

Series: The Gospel of Luke

Sermon: Love Undeserved

**Passage: Luke 6:27-36 (ESV)**

Illustration:

Need: The most foundational mark of a genuine believer, follower of Jesus, is love.

### I. What kind of love is this?

- Agapao - love that seeks the greatest good of others. Obscure in Greek usage.
- This kind of love is not feelings (eros or philia), but a decision demonstrated by actions. (Rom. 5:8)

### II. Who are NOT my enemies?

- Individuals you are at odds with. (Rom. 12:18 "live at peace with everyone")
- Other Christians who believe differently than you. (Eph. 4:1-6 "maintain unity and peace")
- Christians who are caught up in sin. (Gal. 6:1 "restore that person gently")
- Sinners who flamboyantly live out their sin. (Matt. 8:36 "compassion for the lost")
- HARD STATEMENT: Lovers like Jesus should have no one they consider to be an enemy.

### III. Who are my enemies? (see [Luke 6:22](#))

- "Those who hate you, exclude you, revile you, & spurn your name."
- Some because you claim to follow Jesus.
- Some because you order your life according to the teachings & life of Jesus.
- Some because you don't order your life according to the teachings & life of Jesus the way they do.
- Some because they just don't like you and don't really know why.

### IV. What does love your enemy look like?

- "Do good" - doing things that benefit them.
- "Bless" - speak well of; ask for bestowal of special favor from God (Balaam)
- "Pray" - asking God to bring them into right standing with Him; into peace with you.
- "turn the other cheek" - accepting insult without hatred or retaliation.
- "do not withhold your tunic" - continue to minister to those who take advantage of you.
- "give to everyone who asks" - seek to help all legitimate needs.
- "do not demand your goods back" - see people as more important than stuff that belongs to God.
- Treat others as you would want to be treated. Love initiating intentional actions that are not deserved.
- Refuse to give just to get.
- Treat others with the kind of Love that God has for them - merciful.

### V. Application

- Who are "your" enemies? Confess this as sin. Apologize if needed. Begin seeking their greatest good.
- Who are those who hate you? Ask God to show you a concrete way to love them this week, even today.
- Ask God to help you to have no enemies and to see everyone through His eyes of love.