

LOVE YOUR ENEMIES

WORD OF THE WEEK

Luke 6: 27-38

“But I tell you who hear me: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, and pray for those who mistreat you. If anyone hits you on one cheek, let him hit the other one too; if someone takes your coat, let him have your shirt as well. Give to everyone who asks you for something, and when someone takes what is yours, do not ask for it back. Do for others just what you want them to do for you.

“If you love only the people who love you, why should you receive a blessing? Even sinners love those who love them! And if you do good only to those who do good to you, why should you receive a blessing? Even sinners do that! And if you lend only to those from whom you hope to get it back, why should you receive a blessing? Even sinners lend to sinners, to get back the same amount! No! Love your enemies and do good to them; lend and expect nothing back. You will then have a great reward, and you will be children of the Most High God. For he is good to the ungrateful and the wicked. Be merciful just as your Father is merciful.

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

Dear God, thank You for showing us what true love looks like through Jesus. Help us to love our enemies, forgive those who hurt us, and show kindness even when it's hard. We ask for the strength to be generous and to live out these teachings in our daily lives. Fill our hearts with Your love so we can love others as You love us.

Amen.

In this week's Word of the Week Jesus teaches us to go beyond the ordinary and show love even to those who may not treat us well.

Jesus' command to love our enemies is one of the most radical teachings in the bible. It's easy to love those who love us back, but what about those who hurt us? Jesus challenges us to show kindness, forgiveness and compassion even to those who we might feel don't deserve it.

- Who in your life do you find it hardest to love or forgive?
- In what ways can you show generosity, kindness, or forgiveness toward that person?
- What is one specific action you can take to follow Jesus' example of love in this situation?



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In this week's Word of the Week Jesus says that we are not to just force a smile and mind our own business when we are hated or mistreated. But that we should actively try to do good towards those people. Loving those that are unkind to us or mistreat us can lead to peace and reconciliation.

Can you think of a time when you have done this, and gone out of your way to love those who haven't been kind to you?

Can you think of a time when you have seen someone do this, either at school or in the media?

"You don't love in your enemies what they are, but what you would have them become by your prayers."

St Augustine



Loving your enemies means choosing kindness and understanding, even when someone has hurt or upset you. It doesn't mean you have to agree with what they did or let them treat you badly, but it's about not letting anger or hate control your actions. Instead, try to show empathy and forgiveness. This can help break the cycle of negativity and may even encourage the other person to change. It's a reminder that love and respect can be powerful tools for healing and growing, even in difficult situations.



YouTube

Reckless Love (Bethel Music)

[LISTEN HERE](#)

Love Your Enemies Bible Story

[WATCH HERE](#)

Loving Your Enemies is Messy
([WATCH HERE](#))

Love Your Enemies | Luke 6:27-36
([LISTEN HERE](#))

RADICAL LOVE

Watch this clip ([CLICK HERE](#)).

(One of our greatest freedoms is how we react to things - the boy the mole the fox and the horse)

What are your first thoughts?

How does it make you feel?

What does this teach us about loving our enemies? How does it link to this week's theme?



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It's hard, I know, to turn the page
When hurt and anger fill your rage.
When words are sharp, and actions cold,
It's easy to let bitterness take hold.
But what if love could break the chain,
Release you from the endless pain?
What if kindness, like a light,
Could change the dark and end the fight?
Your enemies, they feel the same—
They're human too, just trapped in shame.
Their hearts may hurt, their minds confused,
Don't let their hatred leave you bruised.
Rise above the bitter words,
The fights, the grudges, the silent swords.
You're stronger when you choose to see,
That love can set your spirit free.
Not for them, but for your soul—
To heal, to grow, to make you whole.
So give a smile, forgive the past,
And you'll find peace that's built to last.
Because the greatest strength, you'll see,
Is loving those who disagree.
In kindness, there's a power pure—
A strength that time will never cure.

