

**He Said What?
Love My Enemies
Discover Church
Mark Phillips
October 29, 2023**

“But to you who are listening I say: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you. If someone slaps you on one cheek, turn to them the other also. If someone takes your coat, do not withhold your shirt from them. Give to everyone who asks you, and if anyone takes what belongs to you, do not demand it back. Do to others as you would have them do to you. “If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who are good to you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners do that. And if you lend to those from whom you expect repayment, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, expecting to be repaid in full. But love your enemies, do good to them, and lend to them without expecting to get anything back. Then your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High, because he is kind to the ungrateful and wicked. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.” Luke 6:27-36

Why Love Our Enemies?

“If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners love those who love them.” Luke 6:32

1. Because Christians should go **Against** the flow
2. Because Christians should **Do Good** without any expected return

“My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you.” John 15:12

3. Because Christians should **Give** to those in need

“And if you lend to those from whom you expect repayment, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, expecting to be repaid in full.” Luke 6:34

4. Because Jesus **Commanded** us to

“But love your enemies, do good to them, and lend to them without expecting to get anything back. Then your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High, because he is kind to the ungrateful and wicked.” Luke 6:35

5. Because Christians should be **Compassionate**

“Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.” Ephesians 4:32

“Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil behavior.” Colossians 1:21

Five Practical Ways to Love Our Enemies

1. Do Good to the **haters**

“do good to those who hate you” v. 27

2. Bless the **cursers**

“bless those who curse you” v. 28

*“The words of the reckless pierce like swords, but the tongue of the wise brings healing.”
Proverbs 12:18*

“A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger.” Proverbs 15:1

3. Pray for the **mistreaters**

“pray for those who mistreat you” v. 28

“Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.” And they divided up his clothes by casting lots.” Luke 23:34

4. Offer your cheek to the **slappers**

“If someone slaps you on one cheek, turn to them the other also.” v. 29

“If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.” Romans 12:18

5. Give stuff away to the **demanders**

“If someone takes your coat, do not withhold your shirt from them. Give to everyone who asks you, and if anyone takes what belongs to you, do not demand it back.” v. 29, 30

“On the contrary: “If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink. In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head.” ²¹ Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.” Romans 12:20-21

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Why Love Our Enemies?

1. Because Christians should go _____ the flow
2. Because Christians should _____ without any expected return
3. Because Christians should _____ to those in need
4. Because Jesus _____ us to
5. Because Christians should be _____

Five Practical Ways to Love Our Enemies

1. Do Good to the _____
2. Bless the _____
3. Pray for the _____
4. Offer your cheek to the _____
5. Give stuff away to the _____

Scripture: Luke 6:27-36; John 15:12; Ephesians 4:32; Colossians 1:21; Proverbs 12:18; Proverbs 15:1; Luke 23:34; Romans 12:18; Romans 12:20-21