

Love Your Enemies!

Luke 6:27-30

East Berlin Community Church

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Introduction

- Recognition and honor to “real life” heroes.
- Highest expression of human love—John 15:13
- “Love of enemies” – extreme boundaries of love
- “Love”—the giving of oneself to God for the benefit of another

Love Your Enemies!

A. The **Expression** of “*Loving Your Enemies*”

1. “*Do good to those who hate you!*”—Luke 6:27
 - a. Jesus does not give us the option of self-protection
 - b. Romans 12:17-20
 - c. Illustration: Elisha and the Arameans 2 Kings 6
2. “*Bless them that curse you!*”—Luke 6:28; Romans 12:14
 - a. Speak well to others about the person who hates us.
Ecclesiastes 10:20
 - b. Speak well to the person who hates us
 - 1) If the person will listen to you—Eph. 4:29; 2 Tim 2:24-26
 - 2) If the person will not listen—1 Peter 2:23
3. “*Pray for those who mistreat you*”—Luke 6:28
 - a. Illustrations: David, Jesus, Stephen
 - b. God can change our attitude and the heart of our adversary

B. The **Experiences** of “*Loving Your Enemies*”

1. “*Turning the Other Cheek*”— Luke 6:29
 - a. Slap as the “ultimate” insult
 - b. Giving up the right to our personal “Pride”
 - c. Does not mean that we should take abuse from others.
 - d. A refusal to retreat—but continue to take risks in loving
2. “*Giving the Shirt Off One’s Back*”—Luke 6:29
 - a. The Two Principle garments in Jesus’ day
 - 1) “coat” or “tunic”—their “underwear”
 - 2) “cloak” or “mantle”—their “outerwear”
 - b. Context: lawsuits, not robbery—Matt. 5:40
 - c. Not teaching that we should let people steal from us
 - d. Willingness to go beyond what is expected