

## **MESSAGE REVIEW**

As Jesus continues to teach His followers about the new Kingdom He's come to bring, He lays down one radical statement after another—blessed are the poor, the persecuted, and the hungry, woe to the rich and the prosperous. What Jesus teaches next is one of the hardest commands His disciples will ever have to obey: "Love your enemies." He freely gives us this limitless love, and He calls us to extend it to others. Limitless love points the world to Jesus.

## WARM UP QUESTION

What is something you have a limit on, either placed on you or self-imposed?

**Read Luke 6:27-28.** How does Jesus grab the attention of His listeners right off the bat? What is automatically assumed about their relational statuses according to vv. 27-28? Do you have people you consider enemies? Who are the people who hate you, curse you, or have hurt you?

What is the significance of Jesus putting His listeners on the receiving end of the hate and hurt? How do each of the four responses He commands indicate an action step rather than just letting it slide? What action step do you think God may be similarly asking you to take?

**Read Luke 6:29-31**. How do you know Jesus isn't asking us to put up with abuse, compromise our convictions, or passively not protect ourselves and loved ones? What (who) is the goal and the heart behind these commands? How does humanizing your offenders help you love them?

**Read Luke 6:32-36.** How do Jesus' rhetorical questions emphasize the difference between the world and people who call themselves His followers? Why is He challenging them and us to such an extreme, nearly impossible level of love? How is it possible (see Galatians 5:16-17 for help)?

How did God set the ultimate example for us in loving enemies (see also Colossians 1:19-22)? Do you remember when you were an enemy of God? Are you still? What types of triggers cause you to forget this too easily?

## RESPOND

What have you learned about God from His Word? How is He asking you to apply it to your life? When will you apply it?

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