

WEEK 10:

# JESUS' UPSIDE-DOWN COMMUNITY: RELATIONSHIPS

## PRIMARY SCRIPTURE:

Luke 6:27-36

## RELATED SCRIPTURE:

Matthew 27:32-50, Psalm 22, Romans 5:6-11,  
Romans 12:14-21, Ephesians 2:11-19, John 15:12-17

"You can safely assume you've created God in your own image when it turns out God hates all the same people you do."

- Anne Lamott, *Bird by Bird*

"When we come to terms with the fact that before God we are, because of what Jesus has done, forever loved, forever approved, forever accepted – our meaning, worth, value and security has been secured by Jesus and given to us – that sets us free ... to live without needing to get from people, so now you're free to give to people."

- Tullian Tchividjian, *One Way Love*

## PERSONAL STUDY:

**Read Luke 6:27-31.** List out the specific commands Jesus gives in these verses. Which is the most difficult for you to comprehend? Which is the most difficult to apply?

How do these commands contradict the natural way we tend to relate to people? Think about how you tend to interact with different types of people. What different factors play into your motivations in how you treat people?

**Read Matthew 27:32-50, Psalm 22 and Romans 5:6-11.** How does Jesus' crucifixion relate to the commands Jesus gives in Luke 6:27-31?

What thoughts and emotions do you experience as you dwell on the idea that Jesus became God's enemy on the cross so that you could become God's friend? What thoughts and emotions do you experience as you meditate on Jesus' perfect love and grace for His enemies displayed on the cross?

In Luke 6:28, Jesus says "pray for those who abuse you." Who has caused you the most pain in your life? Spend some time praying for them. How does praying for those who have hurt you bring freedom and healing to your own soul?

**Read Luke 6:32-36.** Where do you see examples of God's merciful, undeserved love and grace throughout the Bible? Where has God's mercy to you motivated your love toward others? Who do you need to forgive and show mercy to?

## SERMON NOTES:



## LIFEGROUP DISCUSSION:

When in your life have you had outright enemies? What caused the situation? Has it resolved? If so, how? If not, why not?



**Read Luke 6:27-29.** Is there anyone in your life right now that Jesus is asking you to be merciful, gracious and loving toward and you are unwilling for some reason?

**Read Luke 6:30.** How do we think through a situation where someone is asking us for money? What other verses help shape our thinking?



**Read Luke 6:32-36.** How do you personally understand God's mercy towards you as one who is "ungrateful and evil"? What factors prevent us from loving people with the same mercy that God has shown to us?

**Read Matthew 27:32-50 and Psalm 22.** How does Jesus relate to us when we are mistreated and struggling to love our enemies?

**Read Psalm 7:11 and 2 Corinthians 5:21.** What does it mean that Jesus became God's enemy so we could become God's friends? What sin and ungratefulness did Jesus become for you so that you could become God's friend?

