



Dig Deeper @Home – “Tough Questions”

Complement to sermon -09/30/2018 – “Am I really to love my enemy?”

ICE BREAKER – ask these to open dialogue and learn more about those gathered

1. Would you rather be able to overpower all other people or outsmart all other people?
2. Who’s your favorite hero? Why?

MEMORIZE – 1st Peter 3:15

But in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect

READ – Luke 6

Questions to ponder/discuss:

1. What does this passage reveal about God? About humanity?
2. If the above is true, what needs to change in your life?
3. In verses 20-26, how does Jesus compare and contrast prophets with false prophets? What is the point of saying this? (read 6:1-19 for some back context, hint: in saying what he did, he sets a trap for the Pharisees)
4. Read again verses 32-34. Where have you been guilty of this? Where are you currently guilty of this? What are you going to do about it?
5. In verses 35-36, Jesus says we are to emulate the Father?
 - a. Why is this important? Who do we actually emulate with our words, thoughts and actions?
 - b. In what ways are we to emulate the Father? Why is this difficult? What do you need to live out this calling?

Summarize Luke 6 in your own words:

Experiential: Loving Enemies

Love. Do good. Bless. Pray for. These are the words Jesus chooses to use when talking to a crowd on how they are to interact with those they consider their enemies. Think of someone that you consider to be an enemy (if you can't, think of someone that annoys or frustrates you). Spend time this week praying for that person. Ask the Holy Spirit to transform you to be able to love them. What good could you do for this person this week? How could you bless this person this week? And don't simply let this be an intellectual exercise (see Luke 6:46-49), go out and do it.

Testimony Time

Share an example of a time you gave love to an enemy

SING (suggested songs to sing. Use these or any song you might want to sing)

Hope of the World - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N42Ror2SFTc>

As you sing this song, remember that the "us" refers to the world – all of us, all people, of all nations, of all time.

Onward Christian Soldier – Mennonite Hymnal #591

PRAY

This is a time to gather around for prayer requests and to share how you have seen God at work. A time to hear where God is showing up in our lives and where we need Him to help us in our lives.

Sending prayer based on the lesson:

Glorious Father who is kind to the ungrateful and the evil, fill us with your strength, with your spirit, so that we too can love and bless our enemies. Jesus, you suffered at our hands, hands of the wicked, so that we could be forgiven and restored. May your Spirit cause us to choose suffering as well, so that others can also know your forgiving and restoring love. In Jesus Name, Amen.