

BACK TO BASICS

Leak Love Luke 6:27-36

INTRODUCTION

► What we've learned so far from the Sermon on the Plain (Luke 6:12-26)

- 1 The Kingdom of God was breaking in on earth history.
- 2 The Kingdom of God welcomes & wants whoever will respond to Christ in faith.
- 3 The Kingdom of God will one day fill the earth, but for now it resides in the hearts of people.
- 4 There will be conflict between the Kingdom of God & the kingdoms of men.

► Question: How am I to respond when hostility comes my way because of the Kingdom?

► Answer: *Love your neighbor as yourself.* (Leviticus 19:18)

- 1 Prevailing attitude of the day – Escape biblical responsibility by limiting the meaning of “neighbor”:
 - Neighbor = Fellow Jews only (not foreigners or “outsiders”)
 - Neighbor = Orthodox Jews only
 - Neighbor = People (Only Orthodox Jews) who lived in close proximity
- 2 Jesus' definition of “neighbor”
 - Neighbor = Anyone who comes across your path with a need.
 - In case you missed the point: *Love your enemies.* (Luke 6:27,35)

PRINCIPLE #1: When our “loving gestures” are calculated to be reciprocated they do not rise to God's definition of AGAPE love.

LOOK WHO'S TALKING!

WHAT'S OUT OF BOUNDS FOR AGAPE LOVE?

- 1 Retaliation
- 2 Revenge
- 3 Cursing
- 4 Hatred
- 5 Physical violence
- 6 Doing evil (Romans 12:21)
- 7 Harboring bitterness/unforgiveness
- 8 Expecting reciprocation

PRINCIPLE #2: People leak most what they love most.

WHAT'S IN BOUNDS FOR AGAPE LOVE?

- 1 Do good
- 2 Bless
- 3 Pray
- 4 Turn the other cheek
- 5 Be generous with material possessions
- 6 Don't require reciprocal responses
- 7 Behave like God
- 8 Leave the results in God's hands

PRINCIPLE #3: There is power in AGAPE love.

AGAPE'S SECRET

- You cannot consistently show agape love without letting Jesus live through you.
- John 15:5 - *I am the vine, you are the branches; he who abides in Me and I in him, he bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do nothing.*

LifeGroup Questions - Doing Life Together

Week of May 13-19, 2018

BACK TO BASICS

Leak Love

Luke 6:27-36

Sermons can be viewed online at creeksideeg.com/sermon

Questions are based on the NIV translation of the Bible

PRAYER

Begin your time together by asking God to guide your group discussion.

MY STORY

1. By nature, what do you tend to “leak” when you are “bumped” or overloaded in life?

DIGGING DEEPER

2. What insight, principle or point from Sunday’s message really stood out to you? Why?
3. In our fallen state, how do we humans often respond to the following?
 - Dealing with an enemy –
 - Being hated or mistreated –
 - Being insulted or cursed at –
 - Being isolated or ostracized –
 - Being slapped in the face –
 - Having someone take something that belongs to you –
4. **Read Luke 6:27-30, 35-36.** What instruction does Jesus give regarding the following scenarios? Why does each scenario need to be handled wisely with love? Do you think it makes difficult situations better or worse when we do things Jesus’ way? Explain..
 - How to treat an enemy –
 - What to do if someone hates you –

What to do if someone insults or curses you –

What to do if someone mistreats you –

What to do if someone strikes you –

5. **Luke 6:31** is known as the Golden Rule. If you did not know this, and read it for the first time, what title would you give this verse? Explain.

DIGGING EVEN DEEPER

6. **Read Luke 6:27-36, Matthew 5:38-48, and Romans 12:17-21.** What are some of the similarities and differences in these passages? What are the various reasons given for why Jesus’ followers are to react differently than the world when encountering difficult situations?
7. After reading the above passages, does it seem to you that Jesus calls His followers to be doormats? Why or why not? How does **Matthew 10:16** apply?
8. How can the following verses help us in our quest to live as true disciples of Jesus Christ?
 - Philippians 4:13** -
 - John 15:4, 5** -
 - Galatians 5:16** -
9. Living as a true disciple of Jesus (i.e., continuously learning to live and love as Jesus does) is impossible in our own strength. What can you do this week to draw closer to God so that His love would fill you to the point of overflowing, so you can “leak His love” on a world in need?

TAKING IT HOME

PRAYING TOGETHER

Pray for the needs of your group and ask God to help you “leak love” this coming week.