

Enemies: A Love Story?

Sermon Takehome
Pastor Randy Richter

Luke 6:27-36
February 27, 28 2010

1. Define the word "enemy." Share (in general terms) about an enemy you have had and how you were, or are, dealing with it.
2. What are some of the negative results if we do not deal with the enemies in our lives properly?
3. Share some Biblical stories you can think of where the characters did not deal with enemies as they should have. Share some stories where they did. What was the major difference?

Read Luke 6:27-36.

4. In what way are enemies always a test? What do they test?
5. Share about someone in your life who is easy to love.

Read Luke 10:25-27.

6. What is the bulls eye of spiritual love that we see in these verses? What are some ways we can measure growth in this area?
7. How are you doing, are you moving away from the bulls eye of growing in love for God and others or toward it? In what way do our enemies allow us to see how real our faith is?
8. What was the time in your life that you grew the most spiritually? Was it a time of pain? Do enemies always give us an opportunity to grow?
9. What do you think the reward that Jesus speaks of is?
10. What do you think it means when it's said that when we love our enemies we are "sons of the Most High?"
11. Think of some children who look very much like their parents. What do you think of the statement that when we love our enemies, it is one of the times

that we most resemble Jesus?

12. Look at the specific instructions Jesus gives. Why is it so difficult to imagine loving our enemies? What do you think Jesus means by this? Why do you think Jesus gave such specific instructions?
13. Have you ever tried to do good to an enemy? What happened? Remember Pastor Randy's story about mowing his piano player's lawn? Do you think he did the right thing?
14. Have you ever prayed for an enemy before? What happened? Why don't more people do this? Why do you think Jesus asks this?
15. How does it make you feel to know your enemy may never change?
16. What situation in your life could you apply the instructions of Jesus to, right now?
17. Will you? What does this application look like?