

September 15, 2019

The Challenge of God's Love

Things to Ponder This Week

### Introduction

(Luke 6:27-36; 6:20; Matthew 5:3)

The first thing we need to do in reading this passage is to agree that this is h\_\_\_\_\_ God wants us to live. Secondly, we need to agree that it is impossible to live this way in our o\_\_\_\_\_ strength. Thirdly, we need to agree that because God wants us to live this way, it must be possible to do so with His h\_\_\_\_\_.

### God's Love → AGAPE → Unconditional, Eternal, Encompasses all of life

(John 3:16; Romans 5:8; 1 John 4:9-10; Mark 12:29-31; John 13:34-35; 15:12-14; 1 John 4:20-21; Luke 6:27-36; Ephesians 4:32-5:2)

- God's love for us in the s\_\_\_\_\_ of His Son Jesus Christ
- God desires for us to love Him with \_\_\_\_\_ that we are (heart, soul, mind, and strength)
- God desires for us to love one another with the s\_\_\_\_\_ love that He has for us
- It is an offering, sacrifice, and fragrant aroma, which is a pleasing service and w\_\_\_\_\_ to God!

### God's Love → HOLY SPIRIT → Spirit of Truth and Love

(John 14:15-17; Galatians 5:22-26)

### SURRENDER NECESSARY

- C \_\_\_\_\_
- Repentance
- O \_\_\_\_\_
- Submission
- S \_\_\_\_\_

Based on Luke 6:27-30, what does it mean to love your enemies? Is this easy? Why or why not? Take time now to pray for God to bless those who you consider your enemies, as well as for those who hate and mistreat you. Pray for God to enable you to treat these people with God's goodness.

Based on Luke 6:31-34, how are we to treat those who are difficult to love? By what standard does God hold us to in terms of loving people? Though we are not saved by works (Thanks be to God for His grace received through faith in Jesus Christ!), how does God value (credit) our love for others, especially those who are not easy to love?

Based on Luke 6:35-36, how are we to love our enemies, and what is the basis for such love? How has God shown mercy to you, and how are you to show mercy to others? Pray for God's mercy to be expressed through you in all of your relationships, both dear and difficult.

Next Sunday, we will continue our study of the Gospel of Luke by looking at "As Jesus Commands". Prayerfully read Luke 6:37-49, and consider the things Jesus teaches and commands His disciples to do. Consider also what it truly means to address Jesus as Lord and to live for Him.