



friendship  
community church

Jesus Talks Crazy  
Luke 6:27-36  
Week of June 23-29, 2019

#blessed  
#woe  
#crazytalk

Jesus Talks Crazy

*"But I say to you who hear, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. To one who strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also, and from one who takes away your cloak do not withhold your tunic either. Give to everyone who begs from you, and from one who takes away your goods do not demand them back. And as you wish that others would do to you, do so to them. "If you love those who love you, what benefit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what benefit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. And if you lend to those from whom you expect to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to get back the same amount. But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return, and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he is kind to the ungrateful and the evil. Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful." - Luke 6:27-36 ESV*

v. 27-28 – In today's culture and from a conventional wisdom standpoint, it's crazy to treat bad people good. Most of us are like Bart Durham, you know the local lawyer, "You Deserve Justice — And We Demand It." Justice - let them get what they deserve.

v. 27-29 But I say to you who hear - love your enemies. Jesus would disagree with Bart Durham. Jesus flips the normal reactions on their head. Jesus says -

- Love your enemies
- Do good to those who hate you
- Bless those who curse you
- Pray for those who abuse you

In other words, You can't play life angry. We all know, or have been, the one who plays/lives angry.

Read v. 30-34 - it's crazy to give to those who don't give back  
Give and don't expect anything in return.

Do unto others ... take some time and allow people to explore this verse as it actually is, not as we want it to be. What would it look like if we treated everyone exactly the way we want to be treated? But even if others do not treat others that way, we are still "obligated" to live and treat others as we long to be treated.

Jesus shows us how are to Give and receive love - giving love with no expectations in return  
Encourage others to explore share experiences where they have seen someone give love with no expectation in return. For many, this is very difficult and it is crazy talk even when dealing with our own family and those we hardly know.

Do you only do things for what you might get in return? According to Jesus, how does this come up short?  
Do you do good things for how it makes you feel? How does this come up far short of obeying God?

Jesus asks this question by making a statement - Are you any different from those who don't profess Christ?

v. 30-34 It is crazy to give without getting. What does generosity look like in your life? Are you afraid that God might ask you to give away?

v. 35-36 Jesus sums it up in the last two verses - it's not so crazy when you realize what you get. You are adopted by the One who is kind to the ungrateful and the evil – and many times we are the ungrateful and practice evil.

Some questions to ponder -

Who are your enemies? – why are they your enemies? What have you done?

Who considers you an enemy? While we always have a tendency to see ourselves as the “good” person, there are those who might consider us as the enemy. Why might that be?

How does God regard you? – are you a friend or an enemy of God? Tough question. Jesus lets us know how we can tell if we are a friend or an enemy of God – see John 15:12-14

Read John 15:12-14

Command to love one another as I have loved you.

You are my friends if you do what I command you.

Notice there is no middle ground.

Do you have ears to hear the truth of the gospel of Christ? Luke 6:27 – are you listening with an open heart?

How can the words of Jesus sound less crazy?

- Recognize God's mercy for you - while we were sinners, Christ died
- Recognize God's abundance to you
- Re-gift compassion- you receive from God and share with others
- Re-gift mercy. We give mercy even though we hold the power to withhold it.

Take time to share prayer requests and pray together.