

# UPSIDE DOWN

Exploring the strange things that Jesus said.



# Bless Who?



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**Luke 6:27-38**

**“But to you who are willing to listen, I say, love your enemies! Do good to those who hate you. <sup>28</sup> Bless those who curse you. Pray for those who hurt you. <sup>29</sup> If someone slaps you on one cheek, offer the other cheek also. If someone demands your coat, offer your shirt also. <sup>30</sup> Give to anyone who asks; and when things are taken away from you, don't try to get them back. <sup>31</sup> Do to others as you would like them to do to you.**

**<sup>32</sup> “If you love only those who love you, why should you get credit for that? Even sinners love those who love them! <sup>33</sup> And if you do good only to those who do good to you, why should you get credit? Even sinners do that much! <sup>34</sup> And if you lend money only to those who can repay you, why should you get credit? Even sinners will lend to other sinners for a full return.**



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**Luke 6:27-38**

**<sup>35</sup> “Love your enemies! Do good to them. Lend to them without expecting to be repaid. Then your reward from heaven will be very great, and you will truly be acting as children of the Most High, for he is kind to those who are unthankful and wicked. <sup>36</sup> You must be compassionate, just as your Father is compassionate.**

**<sup>37</sup> “Do not judge others, and you will not be judged. Do not condemn others, or it will all come back against you. Forgive others, and you will be forgiven. <sup>38</sup> Give, and you will receive. Your gift will return to you in full—pressed down, shaken together to make room for more, running over, and poured into your lap. The amount you give will determine the amount you get back.”**



# **Love Your Enemies**

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**Luke 6:27**

**“But to you who are willing to listen, I say, love your enemies! Do good to those who hate you.**

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**The only way to love our enemies  
is to forgive them. Once we  
forgive, we can love anyone.**

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# Love Your Enemies

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**Luke 6:32-35**

**<sup>32</sup> “If you love only those who love you, why should you get credit for that? Even sinners love those who love them! <sup>33</sup> And if you do good only to those who do good to you, why should you get credit? Even sinners do that much! <sup>34</sup> And if you lend money only to those who can repay you, why should you get credit? Even sinners will lend to other sinners for a full return.**

**<sup>35</sup> “Love your enemies!**

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# **Bless Your Enemies**

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**Luke 6:28**

**Bless those who curse you. Pray for those who hurt you.**

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# Bless Your Enemies

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**Luke 6:29**

**If someone slaps you on one cheek, offer the other cheek also. If someone demands your coat, offer your shirt also.**

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**Once you realize that Jesus' love has covered a multitude of your sins, it is easy to allow your love to cover a multitude of sins in others.**

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# **Pray For Your Enemies**

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**Luke 6:28**

**Bless those who curse you. Pray for those who hurt you.**

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# But How?

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**Matthew 6:14-15**

**<sup>14</sup> “If you forgive those who sin against you, your heavenly Father will forgive you. <sup>15</sup> But if you refuse to forgive others, your Father will not forgive your sins.**

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# **But How?**

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**Permanently forgiving all debt and bringing the debt to zero.**

**The Greek word for forgive is *aphiēmi*: to forgive, to send away pardon, remit, cancel; to leave, abandon;**

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# **BUT HOW?**

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**Permanently forgiving all debt and bringing the debt to zero.**

**Permanently forfeiting the right of reproach**

**Permanently forgoing all expressions of private and public judgment.**

**Permanently forgoing all expressions of private and public judgment.**

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**If any of these things are going on in your life, you haven't forgiven.**

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# **But How?**

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**We must remember that our sins cost Jesus his life**

**Luke 6:27**

**“But to you who are willing to listen, I say, love your enemies! Do good to those who hate you.**

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# **But How?**

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**We must remember that God loves our offender as much as he loves us**

**John 3:16**

**“For this is how God loved the world: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life.**

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# **BUT HOW?**

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**We must make a permanent release of their debt to us and release their judgment to God**

**Romans 12:19**

**Dear friends, never take revenge. Leave that to the righteous anger of God. For the Scriptures say, "I will take revenge; I will pay them back," says the LORD.**

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# **But How?**

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**We must bless them and pray for them**

**Luke 6:28**

**Bless those who curse you. Pray for those who hurt you.**

**Revelation 12:10**

**For the accuser of our brothers and sisters has been thrown down to earth—the one who accuses them before our God day and night.**

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**Forgiveness doesn't make them right, it makes us free.**

**Until you let your past die, your future will not live.**

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**“To forgive is to set a prisoner free . . . only to finally discover that prisoner was YOU!”**

**Lewis Smedes**

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#SermonTitle

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