

Message Study Guide

(Scriptures & quotes from this week's message are available on thorncreek.church/live)

Warming up

1. What does the word Sabbath mean to you?

Digging Deeper & Application

Take your time reading the scripture given. If possible look up the verses in different versions and pause at each verse and discuss it.

2. Read Luke 6:1-12. As you read it, put yourself in the shoes of Jesus Christ.
 - a. Why were the Pharisees upset at Jesus?
 - b. What was Jesus' attitude?
 - c. How did Jesus respond to these accusations?
 - d. What did Jesus do?
 - e. Did Jesus do a good thing or a bad thing?
 - f. What does this say about the heart of people.
 - g. How do we allow others to control us when we hate them or harbor bitterness toward them?
3. When was the last time you took a personal spiritual retreat by yourself, to talk with God? (Not including family or friends). Would that be comfortable or uncomfortable for you?

Are you willing to get out of your comfort to put something on the calendar now for a one day retreat? (If not, move on to the next question quickly).

4. Have you ever been hurt by someone? How do you typically respond to someone who hurts you, circle one:
 - A. I hurt back with equal force.
 - B. I ignore them.
 - C. I unfriend them.
 - D. I spend a day with God seeking His guidance.

5. Dave Ralph said, "There is a drag on your soul when you go through spiritual attacks."
 - a. Have you ever experienced this kind of hurt?

 - b. How did you get through it?

6. According to Luke 6:27-28, what are Christians to do with those that hate?
 - a. Is this easy or hard? Why?

 - b. Compare this with some Old Testament teaching (Exodus 23:4, and Deut 7:2).

 - c. Why are these two teachings found in the Old Testament?

9. Please continue reading Luke 6:29-36. According to this passage what is the difference with the love of a Christian and someone who doesn't know Christ?

10. According to Luke 6:36, what should our compassion and love look like?

11. According to John 10:34-35, what is the sign that you know Christ?

Application

Below are some of the points shared in the message. Discuss how they apply to your life.

- The people that you expect to bless are not always the ones you expect. The same people that will want to Crown you today will want to crucify you tomorrow. That's what they did to Jesus.

- "When people hurt you, they expect you to retaliate. They expect you to seek revenge. But God wants you to do the exact opposite. He wants you to respond in love." Rick Warren

- "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 mistreat you." Luke 6:27-28 (NASB)

- "Christian love draws no distinction between one enemy and another, except that the more bitter our enemy's hatred, the greater his need of love." Dietrich Bonhoeffer