



## Key References:

### Luke 6:27–36 (ESV)

<sup>27</sup> “But I say to you who hear, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, <sup>28</sup> bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. <sup>29</sup> 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. <sup>30</sup> Give to everyone who begs from you, and from one who takes away your goods do not demand them back. <sup>31</sup> And as you wish that others would do to you, do so to them. <sup>32</sup> “If you love those who love you, what benefit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. <sup>33</sup> And if you do good to those who do good to you, what benefit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. <sup>34</sup> 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. <sup>35</sup> 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. <sup>36</sup> Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful.

### Proverbs 25:21–22 (ESV)

<sup>21</sup> If your enemy is hungry, give him bread to eat, and if he is thirsty give him water to drink, <sup>22</sup> for you will heap burning coals on his head, and the LORD will reward you.

### Luke 6:49 (ESV)

<sup>49</sup> But the one who hears and does not do them is like a man who built a house on the ground without a foundation. When the stream broke against it, immediately it fell, and the ruin of that house was great.”

## 1 – HOLDING ON TO JESUS

Gerry Esselink shared his testimony of losing his best-friend, his uncle, his mother and finally his wife over the course of one year just prior to Covid. Stiped of everything Gerry pointed out the importance of close relationship with Jesus. **What impacted you from his testimony?**

## 2 – READY TO SHARE

Ivor shared that recently he got the chance to go back to Australia and meet the person who shared the Gospel with him. The person said he almost didn't share the Gospel with Ivor that day. Ivor shared; *“that simple Gospel, shared by that simple man, turned me right around and sent me in a whole different direction”* **Can you remember a seemingly small interaction that has had massive impact into your life? How do these stories show us the power and influence we have in people's lives?**

## 3 – LOVING OUR ENEMIES

Read Luke 6:27-36. We often say how counter cultural Jesus' commands were and this may be one of Jesus' most provocative and hard to follow commands. **Why is this command so challenging?**

Ivor shared a story from China about a believer, a communist and their rice fields. **Do you have a testimony of when showing love to someone turned them from being an enemy?**

**Who are your enemies? How can you follow Jesus' commands from this scripture towards them?**

**How can we love our enemies despite current polarizing social issues? In what ways does the reward from verse 35 come to us when we live like this?**

**How has Jesus himself lived out the very commands in this scripture? And how does it reveal more about the nature of true love?**

## 3 – BUILDING ON THE INSTRUCTION OF JESUS

Read Luke 6:47-49. **What will happen to us and to us if we neglect to practice Jesus' commands here? How can you follow these commands of Jesus in the coming weeks?**