

Principles of a Generous Heart July 25, 2021

Luke 6:27-31, *“But I say to you who hear, love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, ²⁸ bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you. ²⁹ Whoever hits you on the cheek, offer him the other also; and whoever takes away your coat, do not withhold your shirt from him either. ³⁰ Give to everyone who asks of you, and whoever takes away what is yours, do not demand it back. ³¹ Treat others the same way you want them to treat you.”*

1. Jesus’ demands are personal

2. Jesus’ demands are radical

Luke 6:41-42, *“Why do you look at the speck that is in your brother’s eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye? Or how can you say to your brother, ‘Brother, let me take out the speck that is in your eye,’ when you yourself do not see the log that is in your own eye? You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take out the speck that is in your brother’s eye.”*

LOVE your enemies.

DO GOOD to those who hate you.

BLESS those who curse you.

PRAY for those who mistreat you.

Praying for enemies leads to the cultivation and development of a generous heart.

John 3:16, *“For God so loved the world, that He **GAVE**...”*

GIVING is the highest Christian ethic.

Acts 20:35, *“It is more blessed to give than to receive.”*

Luke 6:32-35, *“If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. ³³ If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. ³⁴ If you lend to those from whom you expect to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners in order to receive back the same amount. ³⁵ 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 Himself is kind to ungrateful and evil men.”*

Credit: a beneficent disposition toward someone else, favor, grace, gracious care or help, and goodwill.

Luke 6:36-37, *“Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful. ³⁷ “Do not judge, and you will not be judged; and do not condemn, and you will not be condemned; pardon, and you will be pardoned. Give, and it will be given to you. They will pour into your lap a good measure—pressed down, shaken together, and running over. For by your standard of measure it will be measured to you in return.”*

What are you giving to others?

**What can you predict that you will get back,
from what you’re giving away of yourself right now?**

3. I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me