KINGDOM KINDNESS

(03/16/2025; Life Group; Luke 6:12-36; Steve Thiel; Christ Proclamation Church)

Sermon Theme: Jesus shows perfect mercy towards His enemies, and He calls and commands His disciples to do the same. Although we are mistreated and misunderstood in this world, we bear the kingdom fruit of good attitudes, kind words, and merciful actions as we wait for our final reward in God's presence!

I. Context of Kindness – Read Luke 5:17-6:16

- A. Read Luke 5:17-6:11. What are all the ways we see conflict between Jesus and the Pharisees?
- B. In verses 12-16, what does calling the disciples have to do with the conflict with the Pharisees?
- C. Read verses 12-13. Do you agree with the statement "just because we pray doesn't mean hard things won't come into your life"? How does this idea impact the way that we pray to the Lord?

II. Teaching on Kindness – Read Luke 6:17-36

- A. Read verses 17-19. How would you summarize these verses?
- B. According to Jesus, what is the incentive for loving and blessing our enemies?
- C. How would you encapsulate the blessings and curses included in verses 20-26? How are the blessings an encouragement for the Christian and the woes a terror to the lost?
- D. How should the love of God fuel our love for those who reject the gospel?

III. Call to Kindness - Application

- A. G.K. Chesterton once said, "The Christian idea of good has not been tried and found wanting. It's been found difficult and left untried." Do you agree with this quote? Why or why not?
- B. What does kingdom kindness look like for spirit-empowered Christians in everyday life?
- C. How would you like to grow in having a good attitude, speaking kind words, and being merciful in your actions toward those who have not yet trusted in Christ?
- D. Read Titus 3:1-8. According to Paul, how do we know what perfect courtesy (mercy) looks like? How might your life group pray for your heart towards those who are difficult to love?