



SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Week of December 12, 2021

Please use these questions to stay connected as a church to meditate on the same sermon preached from God's Word this week. May this be a fruitful time for the building up of our church and for the spread of the gospel.

Sermon Text

Luke 6:27-36

27 "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 abuse you. 29 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. 30 Give to everyone who begs from you, and from one who takes away your goods do not demand them back. 31 And as you wish that others would do to you, do so to them. 32 "If you love those who love you, what benefit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. 33 And if you do good to those who do good to you, what benefit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. 34 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. 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 is kind to the ungrateful and the evil. 36 Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful.

If you were not able to listen to this week's sermon, then please refer to this link to listen prior to answering these questions, <http://hawaiiikaichurch.org/sermononline>

Summary

This week we are confronted with a challenging passage of Scripture in which Jesus calls His followers to love other people even as He loves them. The text deals with an uncommon and distinct kind of love that proves a discipleship that is not of this world. Loving our enemies, turning the other cheek, giving to those who take from us, are the expectations Jesus has for those who would be called sons and daughters of the most

High. We are called to be merciful as our Father in heaven is merciful - even to those who are ungrateful and evil. This kind of love can only come from God Himself.

Discussion Questions

1. Why is self-sacrificing love - a love that extends even for our enemies - so shocking to the human mind? Why is it important for Christians to struggle with this idea of self sacrificing love?
2. Why does self-sacrificing love only make sense to those who recognize they too were once sinners and enemies of God? (See Romans 5:8-10)
3. Jesus' expectations of His followers is that they would show a self sacrificing love even to people who least deserve it. This kind of love will distinguish those who know God and those who don't. Based on how you love others, how well do you think you know God?
4. Does this passage teach us that Christians must endure abusive relationships and allow people to unjustly steal from them? Why or why not?