

Unreasonable Obedience

Lesson 4 – Love Your Enemies

Series Overview

The obedience to which Jesus calls his followers goes beyond what feels _____
or even _____.

Jesus never commands anything he doesn't also _____ in His people,
because these commands are meant to drive us to _____ on Him

The need for the command

What is our natural tendency toward those who wrong us?

Because of our sin, we don't drift toward _____ for those who have wronged us,
we more naturally drift toward _____

Understanding the Command

Jesus doesn't command us to simply _____ or avoid _____,
but to _____ those we consider our _____

Defining love

Love is:

- a _____ to seek another's _____ – **Romans 12:14, 20-21**
- sometimes _____ – **Luke 6:27-31**
- _____ through our own power – **1 Corinthians 13:4-7**

Love is not (an unexhaustive list):

- primarily a feeling
- pretending you weren't hurt
- removing boundaries or consequences
- approval of sin or foolishness

You can love someone you don't _____ or _____

You can love someone who has, or is trying to, _____ you

Defining enemies

Enemies are:

- those who _____ you – **Matthew 5:44**
- those who _____ you – **Luke 6:27**

Enemies are not necessarily (an unexhaustive list):

- those who contradict or go against you
- those who frustrate/annoy you
- those who react to your sins (**1 Peter 2:20; 4:15**)

Obeying the Command

What does it look like to love my enemy?

Even when it is done to us, we do not _____ in return – **1 Peter 2:23**

We show _____ – **1 Peter 2:18**

We _____ for them – **Matthew 5:44; Luke 6:28**

We _____ those who do us harm – **Luke 6:28; Romans 12:14**

We put away _____ and _____ – **Ephesians 4:31-32**

Rather than _____ evil, we _____ in the Lord's justice
– **Romans 12:19; 1 Peter 3:9**

How does the gospel enable me to love my enemy?

We pray for enemies because Christ is _____ for our prayers – **Romans 8:34**

We can move _____ others (even enemies) in love
because we did not _____ God, He sought us – **1 John 4:19**

We can refuse _____
because our immeasurable debt was paid by Christ
– **Matthew 18:23-35; Colossians 2:13-14**

You can leave ultimate _____ to God because He is _____ just – **Rom. 12:14-21**

Either your enemy will _____ for their sins,
or they will _____ in Christ who has already paid for their sins,
and they will become your _____ in Christ