

WEEK 6: GUIDELINES FOR THE LIFE OF A DISCIPLE, PART 2 (LUKE 6:20-49)

How the Disciple Should Live with Others (6:27-36)

If you're going to live out the radical change of being a Christian in the world today, you're going to need to see the world a little differently—you're going to need to **adopt a worldview** that is consistent with the Bible.

1Cor. 2:14 (NASB) But a natural man does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually appraised.

The natural man _____ God.⁹

Because both our flesh and the world system is **opposed to God** (in rebellion against God), we should expect that living for God will be

1) _____ and

2) _____.

Radical changes in _____ (for living with others). (6:27-31)

Luke 6:27 (NASB) "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.

List the actions (and recipients of the actions) that a disciple of Jesus should do:

Action	Recipient
	Your enemies
	To those who hate you
	The ones who curse you
	Those who abuse you
	The one who strikes you on the cheek
Give/offer your tunic ¹⁰	The one who takes away your cloak ¹¹
	To the ones who begs from you
	The one who takes away your goods.

This can all be summed up in the golden rule: Luke 6:31:

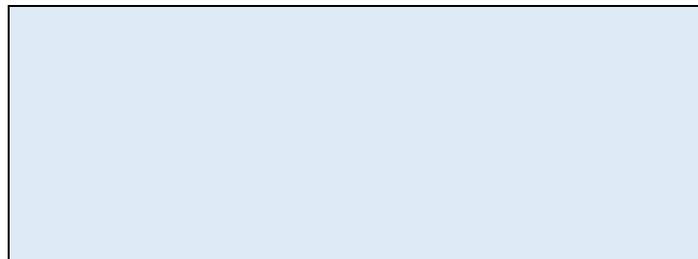
""Treat others the same way you want them to treat you." (Luke 6:31 NASB)

⁹ C.f., 1 Cor 1:18-23.

¹⁰ A "tunic" (αχιτών) was the long garment worn next to the skin (like an undergarment).

Can you think of how this might affect the people that "abuse" you? Read Romans 12:18-21 and note how this passage contributes to this question.

Rom. 12:18 (NASB) If possible, so far as it depends on you, be at peace with all men. 19 Never take your own revenge, beloved, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written, "VENGEANCE IS MINE, I WILL REPAY," says the Lord. 20 "BUT IF YOUR ENEMY IS HUNGRY, FEED HIM, AND IF HE IS THIRSTY, GIVE HIM A DRINK; FOR IN SO DOING YOU WILL HEAP BURNING COALS ON HIS HEAD." 21 Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.



Radical changes in mindset (for living with others). (6:32-36)

Christians are supposed to be *different* from the rest of the world—not because Christians are *odd* or *strange*, but because they have a different *value system*.

Luke 6:32 (NASB) "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. 36 "Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

What truths ought Christians to **recognize** and **internalize** in order to live as true disciples of Jesus?

- Christians ought to recognize that **all people are _____ in God's _____**. You should respect everyone, not just those who are from your own little community.
- Christians ought to recognize that they are _____ in need of a Savior (just like everyone else). This ought to encourage _____ when dealing with others (as opposed to superiority).
- Christians ought to live in light of God's merciful/gracious love towards us as sinners. We are **completely undeserving** of this love. Therefore, we must show love to others, even when they are undeserving.
- Christians ought to recognize that their reward will not be on this earth, but will be an _____ **reward** in heaven.
- Christians ought to strive to reflect the character of God (being "sons of the Most High") who shows blessings to the good and the evil; who gives mercy to the righteous and unrighteous, who rains on the just and the unjust.

¹¹ A "cloak" (an ἱμάτιον) was the typical outer garment or long coat—a generic word for clothing.

How the Disciple Should Evaluate Self. (6:37-42)

Show mercy with others. (6:37-38)

Luke 6:37 (NASB) "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. 38 "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."

Mercy = _____

Because God shows mercy, we ought to show mercy to others.

Questions

1. What exactly is Jesus commanding his disciples to do? Is he saying that you should **never** judge someone—ever?¹²

2. What warning does Jesus give in how disciples address others?

3. Can you think of times when someone might *seem unforgivable*? What does Jesus say about an unforgiving heart? Why should we treat others with mercy, even (or especially) when they have wronged us?

Be honest about yourself before criticizing others. (6:39-42)

Luke 6:39 (NASB) And He also spoke a parable to them: "A blind man cannot guide a blind man, can he? Will they not both fall into a pit? 40 "A pupil is not above his teacher; but everyone, after he has been fully trained, will be like his teacher. 41 "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? 42 "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.

Questions

1. What does Jesus mean by his question about a blind man leading a blind man?

2. What is the difference between the "speck" and the "log"? What do these things represent? Why must we take care of the log in our own eye before dealing with the speck in the brother's eye? How would this look in practice?

3. How can we be sure that we're not the blind trying to lead the blind?

¹² Read Matthew 7:1-5 for a parallel account of the same teaching from Jesus. Does this give any additional insight and if so, what?