

SERMON: Love Your Enemies

July 7, 2019

SERIES: Love Your Enemies

SPEAKER: Pastor Brady

THE GOAL: The primary goal of a small group at Grace is to develop a Christian community where Jesus is experienced through the gospel.

ACCOUNTABILITY QUESTIONS: Use these questions to explore how God is at work in our families, communities, workplaces, and church.

1. Where have you seen God at work in your life this week?
2. What temptations have you been facing this week? How is God delivering you?
3. How have you experienced God's grace this week?
4. In what ways are you growing in your love for God?
5. In what ways are you growing in your love for others?
6. Have you started or stopped something this week just because you love Jesus?

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 5:43-48; Luke 6:27-36.

SERMON OUTLINE: I. The centrality of Love II. The necessity of this love III. The power to love

REVIEW: Use these questions to better understand and apply the passage/sermon.

Observation: as a group talk through and summarize the passage. Think through Who, What, Where, When, How, Why questions together.

Interpretation: answer these questions together:

1. What does this passage teach us about God?
2. What does this passage teach us about us (mankind)?
3. What does this passage teach us about salvation/grace?
4. How does this passage point to Christ?

Application: answer these questions together:

1. How does this passage convict you? Encourage you? Inspire you?
2. What specific truth do you see about God (his grace? love? holiness?) and how would your life be different if you really believed it?
3. By God's grace, what commitments do you need to make this week? Or, what do you need to start obeying/believing?

GO DEEPER: Use these questions to go deeper into the passage, minds, and hearts.

1. What are your initial thoughts about loving your enemies? Can you identify your enemies?
2. Read Matthew 5:48. Jesus tells us to be perfect or complete. How is love of your enemies the completion of love?
3. How is love of enemies the central truth of the gospel message? How does the church demonstrate love of enemies?
4. We can love our enemies because we are Sons of God (Luke 6:35). Your enemy can't take anything from you that you have in Christ. How does this encourage you? How can this empower you to love your enemy?

Prayer: Thank God for his love for you even when you were his enemy. Confess the ways that you have failed to love your enemies. Ask God to empower your love for others through faith in your son-ship.