



(un)divided

Jesus' Call to Love Our Enemies

WEEK 5 - BUILDING ON A STRONG FOUNDATION OVERVIEW

In the final week of the series, we will explore Jesus' conclusion to this provocative section of teaching. Here he provides two metaphors to capture the idea that the fruit of our lives (e.g. loving our enemies) only comes about if we have our roots or foundations in the right place. It is fitting for us to conclude by considering whether our words and actions are flowing out of our surrender to Christ or in our own self-interest and desire. The storms of cultural rage are swirling around us. Will the faith we've built withstand it? If we dedicate our lives to being transformed by Christ's Spirit, building our lives on his self-giving love, perhaps the idea of loving our enemies in this divided time won't seem so crazy after all...

I will show you what it's like when someone comes to me, listens to my teaching, and then follows it. It is like a person building a house who digs deep and lays the foundation on solid rock.

Luke 6:47-48

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. If you were a tree, what kind of fruit would you like to produce, and why?
2. Read [Luke 6:43-45](#).
 - a. What are some examples of good fruit that you might see in a person? What are some examples of bad fruit?
 - b. If you experience bad fruit, what should you do?
 - c. Jesus says in verse 45, "*what you say flows from what is in your heart.*" Think of what you have said in the last 24 hours. What do your words indicate about what is in your heart, in the last 24 hours?
3. Read [Luke 6:46](#). Why do you think someone might call Jesus Lord and not do what he says to do?
4. Based on Jesus' analogy in [Luke 6:47-49](#), why should we follow his teaching?
5. Dave said, "The condition of your heart will determine whether you are able to do the impossible... love your enemy." Explain what this means.
6. How does one get a good heart? (see also [Luke 5:36-39](#), [John 3:3](#))
7. Name one thing you will take with you from this sermon series (a truth? a reminder? a lesson? a next step?).

PRAYER

Dear Father, please help us to follow Jesus' teaching and learn to love our enemies. Reveal the condition of our hearts. Help us to produce good fruit. In the name of Jesus, amen.