



"JESUS' FRIENDS AND ENEMIES"

by Pastor Kevin McBride

Luke 6:27-36
(Love Your Enemies)

INTRODUCTION:

If you were to identify a "Friend of Jesus," what would you look for in his or her life? Church attendance? How they speak? How they vote?

In today's scripture, Jesus gives us two signs by which you can tell if someone is a "true friend" or not.

BACKGROUND:

In this series we have been talking about the sometimes overlooked, "friends of Jesus." Jesus makes it very clear that to be an authentic friend it means you have made an intentional commitment to Jesus as Lord and Savior of your life. (Romans 10:9-10). In making that commitment there should be noticeable changes, signs in your life that demonstrate that truth. This morning, we will be looking at just one of those signs, which left on our own, seems beyond our ability to attain- radical love.

A Friend of Jesus...

Will Have _____:

"Blessed are you when people hate you, when they exclude you and insult you and reject your name as evil, because of the Son of Man" (Luke 6:22).

- Can you identify your "enemies?"

Responds with _____ not _____:

"But to you who are listening I say: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you" (Luke 6:27).

Some Relationship Building Tips

- ✓ Do good to those who hate you
- ✓ Bless those who curse you
- ✓ Pray for those who mistreat you
- ✓ Give them the "shirt off your back"

Summary of a Friend:

Treats Others As They Want To Be _____:

"Do to others as you would have them do to you" (Luke 6:31).

Demonstrates God's Radical _____:

*"If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who are good to you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners do that. And if you lend to those from whom you expect repayment, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, expecting to be repaid in full. But love your enemies, do good to them, and lend to them without expecting to get anything back. Then your reward will be great, **and you will be children of the Most High**, because he is kind to the ungrateful and wicked. **Be merciful**, just as your Father is merciful" (Luke 6:32-36).*

- Am I grateful recipient of God's radical love, but a miserly distributor?

THIS WEEK:

How will I demonstrate I am a "friend of Jesus" to the enemies I think I have?