



THE WAY OF JESUS

EASTER TEACHING SERIES

Part 5: Radical

In a world built on self-protection and payback, Jesus calls us to something radically different: love for our enemies. This message explores what it means to follow Jesus when love becomes costly!

Discussion Questions

1. Reflect on the story of Dirk Willems. What stands out to you most about his decision? What does his example reveal about the difference between survival and faithfulness?
2. Read Luke 6:27-36. What is your honest first reaction to this teaching? What does that reveal about your instincts toward self-protection or control? In the progression Jesus gives (love → do good → bless → pray), which step feels most difficult for you right now, and why?
3. How do you typically respond when you are hurt, insulted, or treated unfairly? How does Jesus' teaching challenge or reshape that response?
4. The sermon contrasted transactional relationships ("I'll treat you well if you treat me well") with kingdom relationships. Where do you see a transactional mindset in your own life?
5. The objection was raised that this kind of love is "not practical." How would you now respond to that? What definition of "works" needs to change?
6. Jesus connects enemy-love to the character of God ("be merciful, just as your Father is merciful"). How does understanding God's mercy toward you shape your ability to extend mercy to others?
7. In this passage Jesus teaches radical generosity. Does your default position tend to be a 'yes' or a 'no' when presented with opportunities to give towards needs of others? How does Jesus' teaching challenge our perspective? Are there ways that you can train yourself to say 'yes' more often?

Moving Forward

Who is a "difficult person" or "enemy" in your life right now, not in theory, but in reality? What makes loving them costly? What is one concrete way you could live this out this week? Remember Jesus' instructions to: love by doing something good, saying something good, and praying for something good.