

Hope Presbyterian Church
Sermon-Based Bible Study Group



February 18, 2024

“Love Extravagantly” - #1 in the series *Love God, Neighbor, Enemy*

Texts: Luke 6: 27-36 NIV

1. What stood out to you about the message?
2. Given the definition of “extravagantly” - *with a lack of restraint in spending money or using resources* - loving God and our neighbor extravagantly makes sense to most of us.
 - What might loving God and our neighbor extravagantly look like?
 - Why is loving our enemy - especially extravagantly - difficult to grasp?
3. **Read Luke 6: 27-31.**

Consider the nature of retributive justice - the punishment of a crime proportional to the crime itself; focusing on punishing rather than rehabilitation of the offender.

 - Why would the crowd have found Jesus’ teaching about loving enemies uncomfortable, if not revolutionary?
 - How is loving oneself a key aspect of loving God, a neighbor, or an enemy?
4. **Read Luke 6: 32-36.**
 - Who/what are our enemies?
 - What does it mean to “love your enemies, do good to them”? What might loving our enemies look like?
5. From his jail cell in Birmingham, AL in 1967 following his arrest in a non-violent anti-segregation protest, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. wrote,
“We must develop and maintain the capacity to forgive. He who is devoid of the power to forgive is devoid of the power to love...When we discover this, we are less prone to hate our enemies.”
 - How do Dr. King’s words connect with Jesus’ teaching to love our enemies?
6. How can we pray for you?