

Message Notes

Real Love

Introduction – “Blessed are those who mourn...”

Today’s Message from Luke:

*The Greatest Sermon Ever Preached (part 2):
Real Love
Luke 6:27-36*

The Difficulty of Discipleship Continues:

1. Love my enemies? - Luke 6:27-30

Who is my enemy?

The Mark of the Disciple of Jesus – Love
John 13:34-35

2. The Basic Principle – Luke 6:31

3. Not just love for those who you like – Luke 6:32-34

4. How in the world is this possible? – Luke 6:35-36

Inside out, not outside in

Romans 5:6-10
John 1:9-10
John 3:19
1 John 2:15-17
John 3:16

Can of Worms question (3rd service only):

*Hey, wait a minute – aren’t we supposed to hate
and resist evil and be people of justice?*

Acts 25:10-11
Romans 13:1-4
Hebrews 12:7-11

Pacifism vrs. Restraining Evil
with Force if necessary

Gospel Application – *Is the Gospel of God
creating in you love, even for enemies?*

Scripture Passages

(taken from the New International Version)

Luke 6:27-36

²⁷But to you who are listening I say: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, ²⁸bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you. ²⁹If someone slaps you on one cheek, turn to them the other also. If someone takes your coat, do not withhold your shirt from them. ³⁰Give to everyone who asks you, and if anyone takes what belongs to you, do not demand it back. ³¹Do to others as you would have them do to you. ³²If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners love those who love them. ³³And if you do good to those who are good to you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners do that. ³⁴And 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. ³⁵But 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. ³⁶Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

Exodus 23:4-5

⁴“If you come across your enemy’s ox or donkey wandering off, be sure to take it back to him. ⁵If you see the donkey of someone who hates you fallen down under its load, do not leave it there; be sure you help him with it.

Proverbs 25:21-22

²¹If your enemy is hungry, give him food to eat; if he is thirsty, give him water to drink. ²²In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head, and the LORD will reward you.

John 13:34-35

³⁴“A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. ³⁵By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.”

Romans 5:6-10

⁶You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous man, though for a good man someone might possibly dare to die. ⁸But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. ⁹Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God’s wrath through him! ¹⁰For if, when we were God’s enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life!

John 3:16

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

The Gospel of
LUKE

The King and His Kingdom
Luke 3:21 to Luke 9:50

J the B's message

Luke 3:7-9

⁷John said to the crowds coming out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? ⁸Produce fruit in keeping with repentance. And do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' For I tell you that out of these stones God can raise up children for Abraham. ⁹The ax is already at the root of the trees, and every tree that does not produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire."

Jesus' Mission Statement

Luke 4:18-19

¹⁸“The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free,
¹⁹to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.”

Jesus' picks



Jesus' picks

Luke 6:12-16

¹²One of those days Jesus went out to a mountainside to pray, and spent the night praying to God. ¹³When morning came, he called his disciples to him and chose twelve of them, whom he also designated apostles:

¹⁴Simon (whom he named Peter), his brother Andrew, James, John, Philip, Bartholomew, ¹⁵Matthew, Thomas, James son of Alphaeus, Simon who was called the Zealot, ¹⁶Judas son of James, and Judas Iscariot, who became a traitor.

The Greatest Sermon Ever Preached

Part One

Luke 6:17-26

¹⁷He went down with them and stood on a level place. A large crowd of his disciples was there and a great number of people from all over Judea, from Jerusalem, and from the coast of Tyre and Sidon, ¹⁸who had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases. Those troubled by evil · · spirits were cured, ¹⁹and the people all tried to touch him, because power was coming from him and healing them all.

The Greatest Sermon Ever Preached

Part One

Luke 6:17-26

²⁰Looking at his disciples, he said:

“Blessed are you who are poor,
for yours is the kingdom of God.

²¹Blessed are you who hunger now,
for you will be satisfied.

Blessed are you who weep now,
for you will laugh.

The Greatest Sermon Ever Preached

Part One

Luke 6:17-26

²²Blessed 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.

²³“Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, because great is
your reward in heaven. For that is how their fathers
treated the prophets.

The Greatest Sermon Ever Preached

Part One

Luke 6:17-26

²⁴“But woe to you who are rich,
for you have already received your comfort.

²⁵Woe to you who are well fed now,
for you will go hungry.

Woe to you who laugh now,
for you will mourn and weep.

The Greatest Sermon Ever Preached

Part One

Luke 6:17-26

²⁶Woe to you when all people
speak well of you,
for that is how their fathers
treated the false prophets.”



Luke 6:27-36

²⁷“But to you who are listening I say: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, ²⁸bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you. ²⁹If someone slaps you on one cheek, turn to them the other also. If someone takes your coat, do not withhold your shirt from them. ³⁰Give to everyone who asks you, and if anyone takes what belongs to you, do not demand it back. ³¹Do to others as you would have them do to you.

Luke 6:27-36

³²“If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners love those who love them. ³³And if you do good to those who are good to you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners do that. ³⁴And 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.

Luke 6:27-36

³⁵But 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. ³⁶Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

Today's Message:

The Greatest Sermon Ever Preached (pt 2)

"Real Love"

Luke 6:27-36

The Difficulty of Discipleship Continues:

1. *Love my Enemies?*

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Luke 6:27-30

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Who is my enemy?

Who is my enemy?

enemy \ 'e-nə-mē\ *noun*

“one that is antagonistic to another especially: one seeking to injure, overthrow, or confound an opponent”

~ Frederick C. Mish, Preface, Merriam-Websters Collegiate Dictionary. (Springfield, MA: Merriam-Webster, Inc., 2003).

Old Testament inkling of enemy love

Exodus 23:4-5

⁴ “If you come across your enemy’s ox or donkey wandering off, be sure to take it back to him. ⁵ If you see the donkey of someone who hates you fallen down under its load, do not leave it there; be sure you help him with it.

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Who is my enemy?

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Who is my enemy?



Who is my enemy?



The Difficulty of Discipleship Continues:

The mark of Jesus' Disciples

John 13:34-35

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The Difficulty of Discipleship Continues:

2. *The Basic Principle*

Luke 6:31

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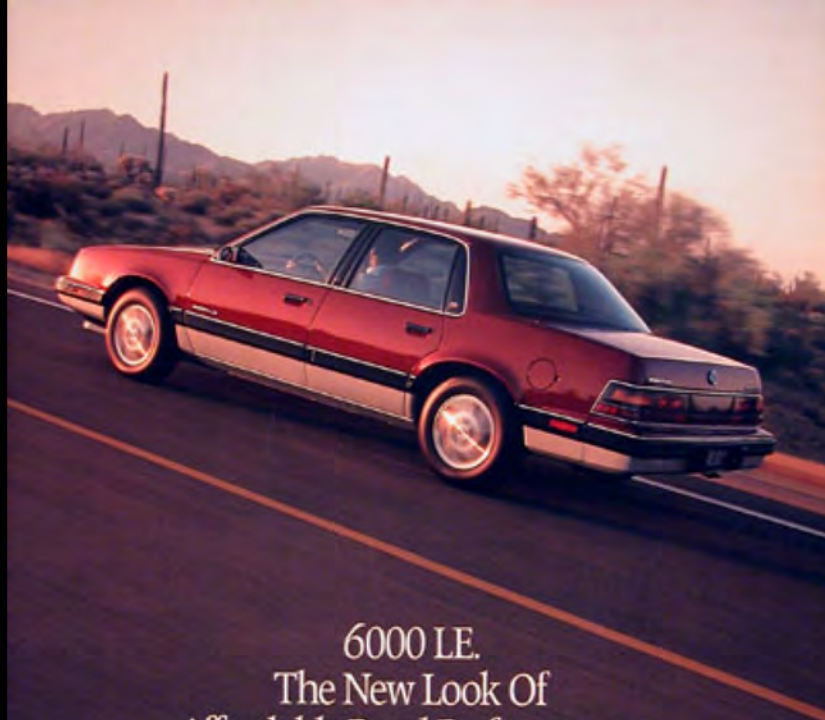
The Difficulty of Discipleship Continues:

3. *Not just for those you like*

Luke 6:32-34

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Pontiac  *We Build Excitement*

The Difficulty of Discipleship Continues:

4. How in the world is this possible?

Luke 6:35-36

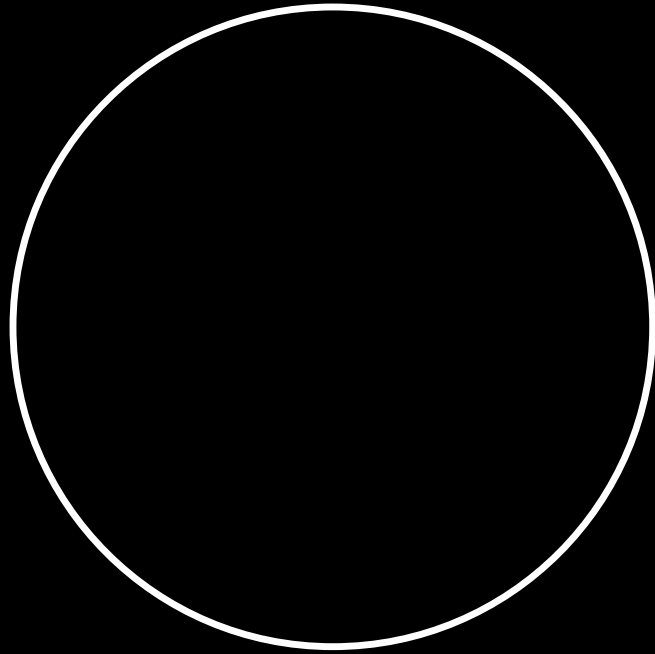
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The Difficulty of Discipleship Continues:

4. How in the world is this possible?

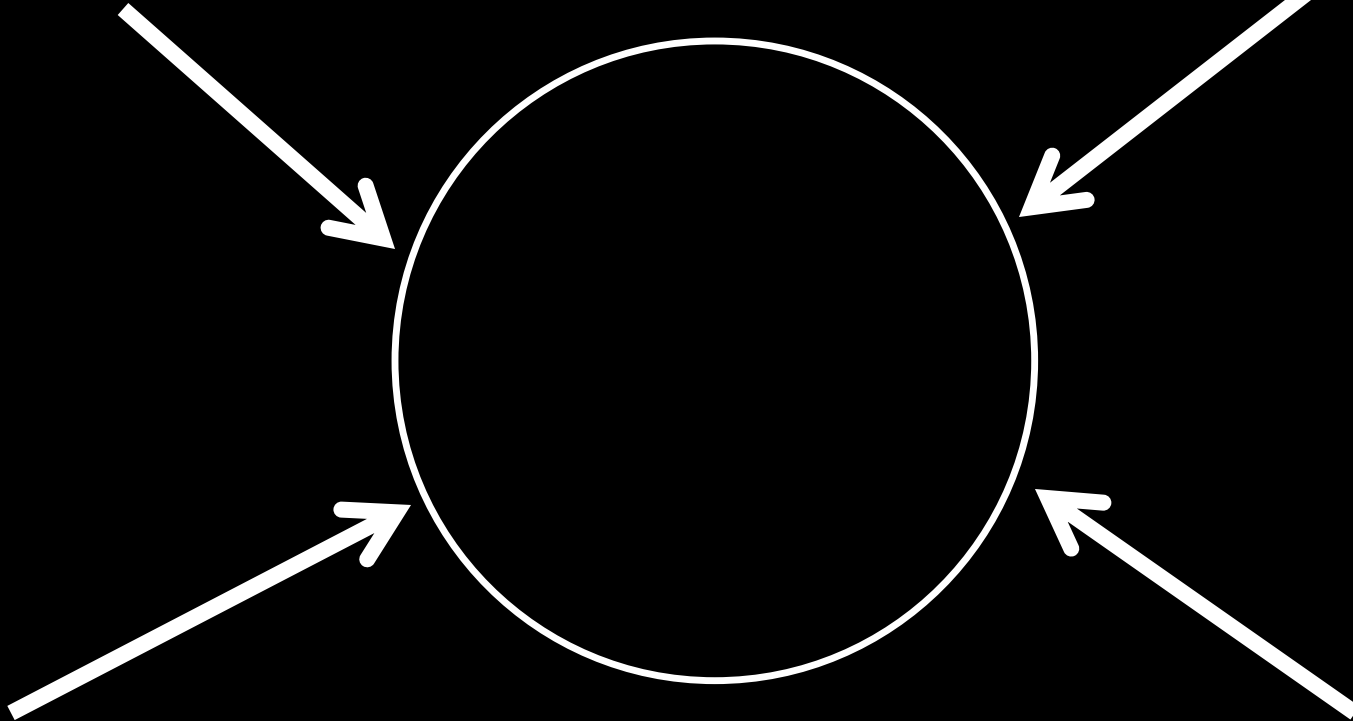
Need to go from the inside out

Not from the outside in



ENEMIES (6:27–28, 35)

RIDICULERS (6:29)



EXPLOITERS (6:29)

TAKERS (6:30, 35)

The Difficulty of Discipleship Continues:

4. *How is this possible? - follow the logic...*

Luke 6:35-36

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Reminder: THE GOSPEL!!

Romans 5:6-10

⁶You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous man, though for a good man someone might possibly dare to die. ⁸But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. ⁹Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him! ¹⁰For if, when we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life!

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John 1:9-10

⁹The true light that gives light to every man was coming into the world. ¹⁰He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him.

Reminder: THE GOSPEL!!

John 1:9-10

⁹The true light that gives light to every man was coming into the world. ¹⁰He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him.

John 3:19

This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but men loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil.

Reminder: THE GOSPEL!!

1 John 2:15-17

¹⁵Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. ¹⁶For everything in the world — the cravings of sinful man, the lust of his eyes and the boasting of what he has and does — comes not from the Father but from the world.

Reminder: THE GOSPEL!!

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John 3:16

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

If we wish to understand God's love, we must look at the revolutionary love of Jesus. The Old Testament taught that we must love our neighbors as ourselves (cf. Leviticus 19:18). Indeed, Jesus said that one could fulfill the whole Law if he could just love God with all his heart, and his neighbor as himself (cf. Matthew 22:34–40). But Jesus went even farther, for he not only loved his neighbors as himself, but his *enemies* as himself. We see this in the Upper Room when, after washing the disciples' feet, he lovingly reached out to Judas, whose heart was set on murderous betrayal (cf. John 13:18–30).



Jesus began reaching for Judas' soul by quoting Psalm 41:9, "He who shares my bread has lifted up his heel against me" (John 13:18), a reference to Ahithophel who betrayed David and then committed suicide. The reference with its tragic end was meant to draw Judas back, as well as to fortify Jesus' other disciples. Evidently the Savior's voice broke with emotion as he further explained what he meant, because verse 21 records, "After he had said this, Jesus was troubled in spirit and testified, 'I tell you the truth, one of you is going to betray me.' "



Then came the summit of Jesus' attempted rapprochement as amidst the disciples' self-questionings he dipped a morsel of food and gave it to Judas. In the Palestinian culture, to lift a morsel from the table, dip it in the common dish, and then offer it to another was a gesture of special friendship (cf. Ruth 2:14). Jesus' gesture said in effect, "Judas, I know what you are up to. But here is my friendship. Here is my loving heart. All you have to do is take it." But poor Judas slammed the door shut. As a consequence, "It was night" (v. 30) – eternal night for Judas' soul.

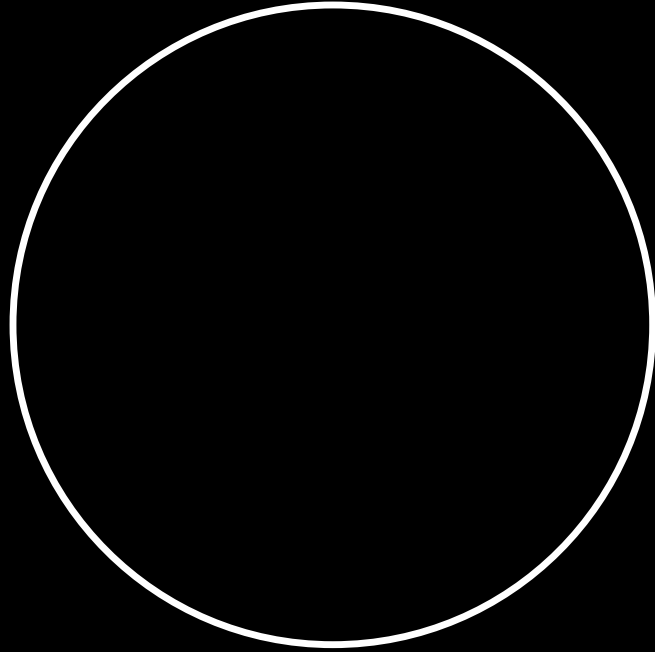


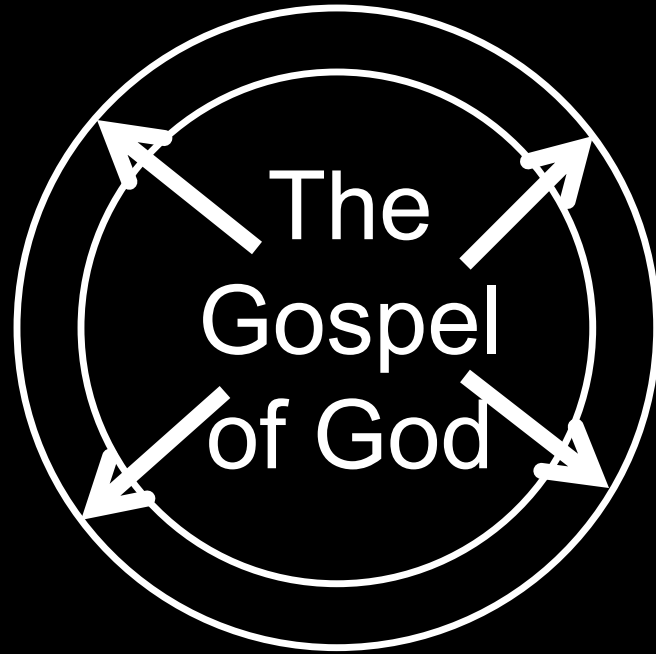
In that awesome event Jesus dramatized his new law of love — the call to love one's enemies. There had never been anything like it. Jesus capsulized this in the famous "as I have loved you" statement of verse 34: "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another." In retrospect, the disciples would see that this love command was explained by Jesus' washing their feet and then reaching out to his enemy. This is the church's new law for dealing with ~~each~~ other, and even with one's enemies, which is exactly what Jesus did in the next few hours when he hung on the cross with his arms stretched wide as if to embrace the world, as he died for the "ungodly," for "sinners," for his "enemies." Jesus loved us not only when we were indifferent to him, but when we were actual enemies of his holiness and grace.



~ R. Kent Hughes, *Luke: That You May Know the Truth*, Preaching the Word (Wheaton, IL: Crossway Books, 1998), 224-225.

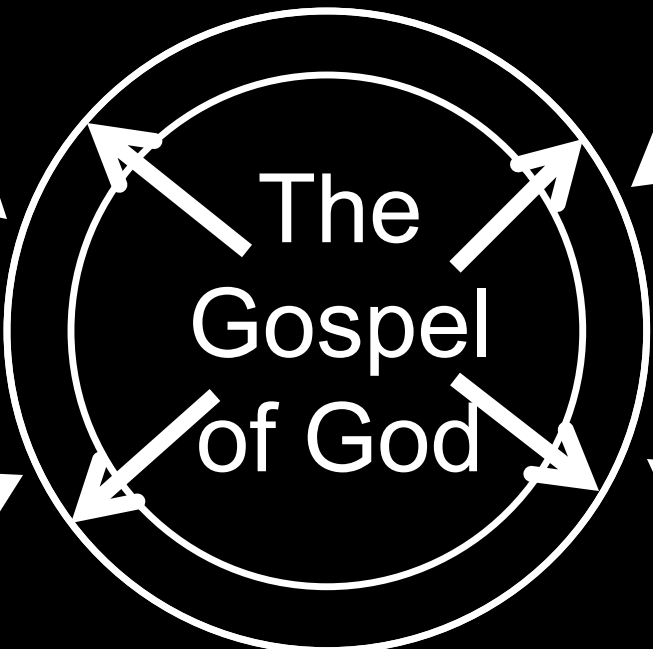






ENEMIES (6:27-28, 35)

RIDICULERS (6:29)



EXPLOITERS (6:29)

TAKERS (6:30, 35)

FREE PARKING →
MICKEY'S DINING CAR

MICKEY'S

DINER



Tortured *for* Christ




Richard Wurmbrand



The tortures and brutality continued without interruption. When I lost consciousness or became too dazed to give the torturers any further hopes of confession, I would be returned to my cell. There I would lie, untended and half dead, to regain a little strength so they could work on me again. Many died at this stage, but somehow my strength always managed to return. In the ensuing years, in several different prisons, they broke four vertebrae in my back, and many other bones. They carved me in a dozen places. They burned and cut eighteen holes in my body.


When my family and I were ransomed out of Romania and brought to Norway, doctors in Oslo, seeing all this and the scars in my lungs from tuberculosis, declared that my being alive today is a pure miracle! According to their medical books, I should have been dead for years. I know myself that it is a miracle. God is a God of miracles. I believe God performed this wonder so that you could hear my voice crying out on behalf of the Underground Church in persecuted countries. He allowed one to come out alive and cry aloud the message of your suffering, faithful brethren.

~ Richard Wurmbrand, *Tortured for Christ*



It was strictly forbidden to preach to other prisoners. It was understood that whoever was caught doing this received a severe beating. A number of us decided to pay the price for the privilege of preaching, so we accepted their [the communists'] terms. It was a deal; we preached and they beat us. We were happy preaching. They were happy beating us, so everyone was happy.

~ Richard Wurmbrand, Tortured for Christ



I have seen Christians in Communist prisons with fifty pounds of chains on their feet, tortured with red-hot iron pokers, in whose throats spoonfulls of salt had been forced, being kept afterward without water, starving, whipped, suffering from cold and praying with fervor for the Communists. This is humanly inexplicable! It is the love of Christ, which was poured out in our hearts.

~ Richard Wurmbrand, Tortured for Christ

Gospel Application

*Is the Gospel of God creating in you love,
even for your enemies?*