Luke Lesson 21 (2019)

**LOVE FOR ENEMIES**

Luke 6:27-36

Key Verse: 6: 35

**Open it:**

1. Why do people often all revenge “sweet”? How do people treat their enemies?

**Explore it:**

1. Read verses 27-30. According to Jesus, how should the disciples of Jesus treat their enemies? How many positive responses to mistreatment did Jesus command? What are some problems if we take Jesus’ words only literally? (29-30)
2. Read verse 31. [This verse is called ***“the Golden Rule.***”] How does Jesus’ statement in this verse summarize what Jesus said about responding to enemies?
3. Read verses 32-34. How does ordinary people treat their loved ones and their enemies? How did Jesus say his followers be different from ordinary people? About what three positive actions did Jesus ask, “What credit is that to you?”
4. Read verses 35-36. What was Jesus’ basic argument in backing up his command to love others unconditionally? What characterizes God’s love? (35b; Hos. 3:1; Jn. 3:16) What is the reward promised to those who follow his teaching? Who are we imitating when we love our enemies? (36)

**Apply it:**

1. Who have been some of your enemies through the years? How can you do good to someone who is unkind to you this week?