

Living Water Fellowship

6th Sunday after the Epiphany – 16th February 2025

COME TO JESUS

PRE-SERVICE MEDITATION DEATH WAS ARRESTED (NORTHPOINT INSIDEOUT)

WELCOME & PRAYER:

SONG: Hosanna (*Brooke Fraser*)

GROW IN HIS GRACE

BIBLE READING: Luke 6:27-42

²⁷ “But to you who are willing to listen, I say, love your enemies! Do good to those who hate you. ²⁸ Bless those who curse you. Pray for those who hurt you. ²⁹ If someone slaps you on one cheek, offer the other cheek also. If someone demands your coat, offer your shirt also. ³⁰ Give to anyone who asks; & when things are taken away from you, don’t try to get them back. ³¹ Do to others as you would like them to do to you.

³² “If you love only those who love you, why should you get credit for that? Even sinners love those who love them! ³³ If you do good only to those who do good to you, why should you get credit? Even sinners do that much! ³⁴ If you lend money only to those who can repay you, why should you get credit? Even sinners will lend to other sinners for a full return.

³⁵ “Love your enemies! Do good to them. Lend to them without expecting to be repaid. Then your reward from heaven will be very great, & you will truly be acting as children of the Most High, for he is kind to those who are unthankful & wicked. ³⁶ You must be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

³⁷ “Do not judge others, & you will not be judged. Do not condemn others, or it will all come back against you. Forgive others, & you will be forgiven. ³⁸ Give, & you will receive. Your gift will return to you in full—pressed down, shaken together to make room for more, running over, & poured into your lap. The amount you give will determine the amount you get back.”

³⁹ Then Jesus gave the following illustration: “Can one blind person lead another? Won’t they both fall into a ditch? ⁴⁰ Students are not greater than their teacher. But the student who is fully trained will become like the teacher.

⁴¹ “And why worry about a speck in your friend’s eye when you have a log in your own? ⁴² How can you think of saying, ‘Friend, let me help you get rid of that speck in your eye,’ when you can’t see past the log in your own eye? Hypocrite! First get rid of the log in your own eye; then you will see well enough to deal with the speck in your friend’s eye.

CHILDREN’S TIME:

FAITH CHAT:

1. What's it like to be treated unfairly? How does that make you want to react?
2. What seems to you to be the point of Jesus' teaching here?

THE MESSAGE: *ANSWERING THE "WHY?": GROW IN HIS GRACE*

OFFERING SONG: *Amazing Grace (My Chains are Gone)*

PRAYERS:

THE COMMUNION:

The Words of Institution & The Lord's Prayer:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, & the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Worship during Communion:

VIDEO – WONDERFUL MERCIFUL SAVIOUR

GO IN HIS POWER

THE BLESSING:

**(Name), † child of God,
God has chosen you to grow in grace,
in likeness to Jesus Christ!
Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

SONG: Grace

SHOW HIS LOVE

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Group Bible Study/Discussion:

1. Read Luke 6:27-42. What questions or observations strike you as you read this text?
2. What do you think would be the natural human response to the situations Jesus describes in these verses? What usually takes place in those circumstances? What do you think Jesus is really trying to infuse in his followers?
3. Do you think responses like this are possible? desirable? practical? What do the words "if you...even sinners" imply (vss 32-34)? In contrast, what does Jesus command of his disciples (vs 35)? What is their reward? What can we learn here about the nature of love Jesus wants us to embody?
4. How does Jesus' description of love for your enemies challenge you? How does Jesus' teaching lead us to live reflecting his life & example? (cf 1 Pet 2:19-24)? How does the way He has treated us shape the way we now treat others?
5. Read Romans 12:18-21. What does Paul teach that helps shape our response to mistreatment by others? How adept are you at following Jesus & Paul in this regard? What do you need to become more equipped & proficient at it?
6. Many ancient religions & ethical codes had a "negative" version of the Golden Rule: "Do not do to others what you would not want them to do to you." How is Jesus' teaching for his church different in both intent & outcome?
7. What's the implication, or deeper understanding of vs 37 & "not judging others"? Should we never point out a fault or sin of someone else? What is our first step? What other Bible passages would you lean on & learn from?
8. What sort of behaviour do you think Jesus is describing in verses 39-40? How is verse 40 the goal?
9. God never gives us a command without also giving us a reason & the power to obey it. As you re-read this section of Jesus' teaching, why should Jesus' followers be obedient to him in this circumstances? What is our motivation & our goal?
10. What does Jesus, through this text, call you to do?

Remember:

Every living thing is designed to grow...
to become more like the original
to reproduce that from which it came
God knew his people in advance, and he chose them to become like his Son...
...the student who is fully trained will become like the teacher...
to grow in his grace.

Continue praying through the week:

***Father prepare me for whatever you require today
and lead me in faith wherever you call me to go.
In Jesus' Name...Amen.***