

November 21st, Even Better Than Getting Even

What were some things from last Sunday's message that resonated with you?

Was there anything you wrestled with?

In what ways do you become like the person you don't like when you choose to get even?

Luke 6:27-36

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

32 "If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners love those who love them. **33** And if you do good to those who are good to you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners do that. **34** And 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. **35** But 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. **36** Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

In what ways does it require more strength to practice what Jesus is teaching here than other forms of physical or verbal strength one may use to get even?

Is Jesus telling us to let people walk all over us or permit others to abuse us?

A: No

How does it give the person being mean to you power over you, when you decide to get even with them?

Come up with some hypothetical situations (or use a personal situation if you are comfortable) of someone being mean to someone else. Then describe what it could look like to return good for evil in those situations. How does the potential outcome differ from an outcome where revenge is taken?

What opportunity are we given by God when we encounter bullies in various areas of our lives?

A: God is giving you an opportunity to be transformed more and more into his child.

