

Counterculture Shock

Luke 6:27-38

June 3rd, 2018

1. Counterculture Love (Vs 27-30)

a. Culture of the Day

Love on your family and close friends by reciprocally doing good things (blessing them/wishing them well) for them and reciprocally giving and lending to them.

Hate on your opponents by returning their evil with evil (cursing them/plotting their destruction), taking whatever you can from them while also demanding back anything they took from you.

b. Expectations of Jesus' Disciples

Jesus' disciples must love outsiders, even opponents, as if they were kin or close friends; doing good to them and giving generously and freely to them out of their resources.

2. Counterculture (Golden) Rule (Vs 31)

Jesus' disciples treat others the way they would like others to treat them without expecting anything in return.

3. Counterculture Motivation (Vs 32-38)

a. Motivation of the Day

Non-believers' motivation for doing good and giving/lending to insiders was to indebt them to themselves, a debt to be paid off by doing or giving something back in return.

b. Motivation for Jesus' Disciples

i. Desire to be like Daddy

Jesus' disciples want to be like our divine Father by not judging or condemning outsiders to being beyond our kindness, our mercy, our forgiveness; considering them unlovable.

ii. How Father God treated us

Disciples are inspired to treat outsiders, even those who oppose them as Jesus' disciples, as if they were insiders because that is how Father God, the ideal benefactor, treated them.

iii. Our Heavenly Father's Reward

When disciples generously love on others expecting nothing from them in return, they never fear impoverishment because their Heavenly Father's lavish reward for doing so overfills any created needs.

Summary: Our counterculture love expressed through the counterculture rule and inspired by counterculture motivation will move people from being disinterested in Christ to seeking him.

- **Shock disinterested and creates curiosity**
- **Break down barriers of mistrust**
- **Gives people a glimpse of God's true character**
- **Releases God's inexhaustible resources to keep on loving**

Questions

1. Spend a few moments in prayer thanking your Heavenly Father for his openhanded love towards you.
2. What would keeping the golden rule specifically look like for you in
 - a. Your family life
 - b. Your school or work
 - c. You neighbourhood
 - d. The market placeif you put yourself in the other person's shoes and treated them like you would like to be treated?
3. Which of the following characteristics could be inscribed on your tombstone? Here lies _____. He or She was
 - a. Kind
 - b. Generous
 - c. Merciful
 - d. Forgiving
 - e. Nonjudgmental
4. Describe a time when you took a risk of faith (freely giving of your time, energy or resources) to do to others what you would like done to you, trusting God to replenish what you expended?