# THE GOOD DOCTOR

The Gospel of Luke

## **Rules for Life**

Luke 6:27-45

### A. THE CREW - GRACE-FILLED RESPONSE (27-31)

- 1. The Haters (Detest) → Do Good (honorable)
- 2. Those Who Curse you  $\rightarrow$  Bless Them (benefit [+])
- 3. The Revilers (intimidation)  $\rightarrow$  Pray for them
- 4. The Violent Ones (Strike)  $\rightarrow$  Offer the other cheek
- 5. The Coat Thief (Lift)  $\rightarrow$  Give them your tunic too
- 6. The Beggars → Bless them (No Strings Attached)
- 7. The Common Thief  $\rightarrow$  Write it off

#### B. KINGDOM LOGIC (32-36)

- 1. If you love those who love you, what benefit is that to you?
- 2. If you do good to those who do good to you, what benefit is that to you?
- 3. If you lend to those from whom you expect to receive, what credit is that to you?

#### C. RULES for LIFE: JUDGING/FORGIVING (37-45)

#### **Rules for Life**

- 1. Don't Judge  $\rightarrow$  You will not be judged
- 2. Don't Condemn  $\rightarrow$  You will not be condemned
- 3. Forgive  $\rightarrow$  You will be forgiven
- 4. Give → You will receive (in good measure)

#### **Illustrations (Parables)**

- 1. Parable pointing out ignorance (Pharisees)
- 2. Parable calling for self-examination (Judging)
- 3. Parable that defines Good and Bad Fruit (Yield)

**Luke 6:27-45** "But I say to you who hear, <u>Love your</u> <u>enemies</u>, do good to those who hate you, <sup>28</sup> bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. <sup>29</sup> To one who strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also, and from one who takes away your cloak do not withhold your tunic either. <sup>30</sup> Give to everyone who begs from you, and from one who takes away your goods do not demand them back. <sup>31</sup> And as you wish that others would do to you, do so to them.

<sup>32"</sup>If you love those who love you, what benefit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. <sup>33</sup> And if you do good to those who do good to you, what benefit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. <sup>34</sup> And if you lend to those from whom you expect to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to get back the same amount. <sup>35</sup> But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return, and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he is kind to the ungrateful and the evil.
<sup>36</sup> Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful.

<sup>37</sup> "Judge not, and you will not be judged; condemn not, and you will not be condemned; forgive, and you will be forgiven; <sup>38</sup> give, and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you."

<sup>39</sup> He also told them a parable: "Can a blind man lead a blind man? Will they not both fall into a pit? <sup>40</sup> A disciple is not above his teacher, but everyone when he is fully trained will be like his teacher. <sup>41</sup> Why do you see the speck that is in your brother's eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye? <sup>42</sup> How can you say to your brother, 'Brother, let me take out the speck that is in your eye,' when you yourself do not see the log that is in your own eye? You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take out the speck that is in your brother's eye.

<sup>43</sup> "For no good tree bears bad fruit, nor again does a
bad tree bear good fruit, <sup>44</sup> for each tree is known by
its own fruit. For figs are not gathered from
thornbushes, nor are grapes picked from a bramble
bush. <sup>45</sup> The good person out of the good treasure of
his heart produces good, and the evil person out of
his evil treasure produces evil, for out of the

abundance of the heart his mouth speaks.

- **Discussion Questions**
- 1. Read Luke 6:27-36. How many different pieces of advice did Jesus offer? Does one example stand out to you more than the others? Is it counterintuitive to how you naturally want to respond? If so, why is that? (Abide)
- 2. Read Luke 6:43-45. In these verses, Jesus was speaking in general terms, not in specifics. He looked at life as a whole and said that a person's basic character reveals itself in what the person produces. So in areas of your life are you producing good fruit? What habits do you need God to prune to help you produce more fruit? Discuss.
- 3. Use your time of prayer to take your convictions or questions to the Lord. Ask Him to soften your heart and lead you in His "more excellent way" (1 Corinthians 13:1b).

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