



5 MINUTE LESSONS ON THE KINGDOM OF GOD

The Christmas Gift That Almost Ended In Disaster

One year during the Christmas season, I was looking for a poor family or person that I could help (Galatians 6:10; Luke 6:31). I was at the local Walmart store and it was jammed packed just before Christmas. There were so many people in the store that it was like being in a crowded phone booth.

Suddenly, I heard a woman and her daughter talking. The daughter was expressing in agony the dire situation she was in with her young baby and how she desperately needed money.

At that moment, the daughter and mother saw me and thought I was listening in on their conversation. Then the older woman began to curse and use foul language towards me.

Immediately, I was offended because all I wanted to do was help. I walked off. No sooner had I walked off than this scripture came to me.

“Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good.” (Romans 12:21)

I began to search for the young girl that had the baby and I found her in front of the store. This time she was without her mother. I walked up to her and she immediately recognized me as the man that was cussed out by her mother. I reached into my pocket, pulled out my billfold, and gave her the cash that I had. She said, “I can’t take this!” I said, “You need this money more than I do.” I immediately began to exit the Walmart store. When I looked back, I saw the young lady explaining to her mother, “The man that you cussed out just gave me the money that I desperately needed.” I wish you could have seen the expressions on their faces as I was leaving the store. The Apostle Paul stated in Romans 12:20,

“Therefore if thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink: for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head.” (Romans 12:20)

The writer of Hebrews states,

“Don’t forget to show hospitality to strangers, for some who have done this have entertained angels without realizing it!” (Hebrews 13:2 Living Bible)

Everyday is Christmas with Jesus.

“It is God himself who has made us what we are and given us new lives from Christ Jesus; and long ages ago he planned that we should spend these lives in helping others.” (Ephesians 2:10 Living Bible)

Questions

1 Read Luke 6:27-28.

“²⁷But I say unto you which hear, Love your enemies, do good to them which hate you, ²⁸Bless them that curse you, and pray for them which despitefully use you.” - Luke 6:27-28

Jesus said, “Bless those who curse you, pray for those who are cruel to you.”

True or False

2 Read Matthew 7:12 (NIV).

“So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets.” - Matthew 7:12 (NIV)

The Spirit of God’s Word is really that we may love others.

True or False

3 Read Proverbs 19:17 (NLT).

*“If you help the poor, you are lending to the LORD— and he will repay you!”
- Proverbs 19:17 (NLT)*

With Jesus, Christmas is all year round.

True or False

4 Read Romans 12:9-10 (Living Bible).

“⁹Don’t just pretend that you love others: really love them. Hate what is wrong. Stand on the side of the good. ¹⁰Love each other with brotherly affection and take delight in honoring each other.”

- Romans 12:9-10 (Living Bible)

We should honor others even above ourselves.

True or False

5 Read 2 Corinthians 9:15 (NLT).

“Thank God for this gift too wonderful for words!” - 2 Corinthians 9:15 (NLT)

The greatest gift given was God giving us the life of His son.

True or False

We want to hear from you!

We would love to hear your feedback on these lessons and how you use them in your own study or in discipling others. If you have any thoughts, stories, testimonies, comments, or questions we would love to hear them!

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Answer Key

1 Read Luke 6:27-28.

Jesus said, "Bless those who curse you, pray for those who are cruel to you."

True

"²⁷But I say to you who are listening, love your enemies. Do good to those who hate you, ²⁸bless those who curse you, pray for those who are cruel to you." (Luke 6:27-28 NCV)

2 Read Matthew 7:12 (NIV).

The Spirit of God's Word is really that we may love others.

True

"God is not unjust; he will not forget your work and the love you have shown him as you have helped his people and continue to help them." (Hebrews 6:10 NIV)

3 Read Proverbs 19:17 (NLT).

With Jesus Christmas is all year round.

True

"Do to others as you would have them do to you." (Luke 6:31 NIV)

4 Read Romans 12:9-10 (Living Bible).

We should honor others even above ourselves.

True

"The greatest love a person can show is to die for his friends."
(John 15:13 NCV)

"But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us." (Romans 5:8 NIV)

5 Read 2 Corinthians 9:15 (NLT).

The greatest gift given was God giving us the life of His son.

True

“²⁰It was through what his Son did that God cleared a path for everything to come to him—all things in heaven and on earth—for Christ’s death on the cross has made peace with God for all by his blood. ²¹This includes you who were once so far away from God. You were his enemies and hated him and were separated from him by your evil thoughts and actions, yet now he has brought you back as his friends.” (Colossians 1:20-21 Living Bible)