

Loving Your Enemies

Lectio Divina Guide for Luke 6:27-31

Opening Prayer

Ask the Holy Spirit to lead and guide you. You can use the optional Holy Spirit invocation found below.

"Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created. And You shall renew the face of the earth."

Lectio (Read):

LUKE 6:27-31

Read the passage out loud and then silently. Then read the verse in another translation. While reading, pay attention to words or phrases that stick out to you. Write down what stuck out to you. After reading the passage, read the background information for this Scripture below:

- Luke is the only non-Jewish author in the New Testament. He is also the author of Acts.
- He wrote this record of Jesus' life for a Gentile (non-Jewish) audience.
- The theme of Luke is Jesus as the Savior of the whole world. The Jews were considered God's chosen people, but Luke emphasizes that Jesus came to save all people, not just the Jews.
- Luke's Gospel is marked by a focus on Jesus' relationships with people who were considered outcasts by society.

Meditatio (Reflect):

This is the time to reflect on why this word or phrase might be standing out. Here are a few journaling questions for reflection:

- What does "those who hear" mean? Would you identify yourself as someone who "hears" this message?
- How does this reading set Jesus apart from other religious leaders that you know of?
- How does this reading challenge you?

Oratio (Respond):

This is your time to respond and talk to God in prayer. You can also sit in silence and listen for God's voice. You can also ask Him questions like these:

- What are you saying to me through this scripture?
- What are you asking of me?
- Where in my life can I put this into practice?

Contemplatio (Rest):

Reread the scripture and allow time for silence. Thirty seconds to a minute or so is ideal. Give God more space to speak in the silence.