

## What Conversation Are You Having?

*"Conversations Worth Having"*

PASTOR CRAIG SWEENEY

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Thread: **As followers of Jesus, we pay attention to which \_\_\_\_\_ we're having.**

<sup>27</sup> "But to you who are willing to listen, I say, love your enemies! Do good to those who hate you. <sup>28</sup> Bless those who curse you. Pray for those who hurt you. <sup>29</sup> If someone slaps you on one cheek, offer the other cheek also. If someone demands your coat, offer your shirt also. <sup>30</sup> Give to anyone who asks; and when things are taken away from you, don't try to get them back. <sup>31</sup> Do to others as you would like them to do to you.

**Luke 6:27-31 NLT**

### HOW DO I LIVE LIKE THAT?

- "Do to others as you would like them to do to you." **Luke 6:31 NLT**

How do I love my enemies?

If I would ask you to do something for me, then I should be willing to do the same for you.

- **Context to this verse:**  
Uses hyperbole to make a point.
- Jesus is presupposing you will use wisdom.

"Don't throw your pearls to pigs! They will trample the pearls, then turn and attack you." **Matthew 7:6 NLT**

<sup>32</sup> "If you love only those who love you, why should you get credit for that? Even sinners love those who love them! <sup>33</sup> And if you do good only to those who do good to you, why should you get credit? Even sinners do that much! <sup>34</sup> And if you lend money only to those who can repay you, why should you get credit? Even sinners will lend to other sinners for a full return."

**Luke 6:32-34 NLT**

**More hyperbole to stretch my faith.**

**Challenge yourself to go much further than you think reasonable.**

### WHAT IS MY GOAL?

<sup>35</sup> "Love your enemies! Do good to them. Lend to them without expecting to be repaid. Then your reward from heaven will be very great, and you will truly be acting as children of the Most High, for he is kind to those who are unthankful and wicked. <sup>36</sup> You must be compassionate, just as your Father is compassionate."

**Luke 6:35-36 NLT**

- Why is "love for my enemy" my goal?
- I had better not speak something from or on behalf of God that He has not spoken.

### What so many are doing:

<sup>37</sup> "Do not judge others, and you will not be judged. Do not condemn others, or it will all come back against you." **Luke 6:37a NLT**

**Judge = Pronounce as guilty and unredeemable.**  
**Condemn = Pronounce the eternal sentence.**

### Most people want to have an honest conversation about their life.

- The #1 quality non-Christians and those NOT belonging to a church look for in a person to talk about faith with is: "Listens without judgement."
- 62% of Americans are looking for this from the other person.
- 34% know a person like this.

### Your Father in heaven is waiting to reward you.

"Forgive others, and you will be forgiven. <sup>38</sup> Give, and you will receive. Your gift will return to you in full—pressed down, shaken together to make room for more, running over, and poured into your lap. The amount you give will determine the amount you get back

<sup>39</sup> "Then Jesus gave the following illustration: 'Can one blind person lead another? Won't they both fall into a ditch?'..."

<sup>41</sup> "And why worry about a speck in your friend's eye when you have a log in your own? <sup>42</sup> How can you think of saying, 'Friend, let me help you get rid of that speck in your eye,' when you can't see past the log in your own eye? Hypocrite!"

**Luke 6:37b-42a NLT**

### WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO DO OR THINK?

"First get rid of the log in your own eye; then you will see well enough to deal with the speck in your friend's eye.

<sup>43</sup> "A good tree can't produce bad fruit, and a bad tree can't produce good fruit. <sup>44</sup> A tree is identified by its fruit. Figs are never gathered from thornbushes, and grapes are not picked from bramble bushes. <sup>45</sup> A good person produces good things from the treasury of a good heart, and an evil person produces evil things from the treasury of an evil heart. **What you say flows from what is in your heart.**" **Luke 6:42b-45 NLT**

## Life Group Homework

For the week of May 23, 2021

### WHY THE CONTRAST BETWEEN “DON’T JUDGE...AND FRUIT TREES”?

#### WHAT NOT TO DO

Give in to resentment, unforgiveness, and hatred.

Speak your mind.

Assume the worst.

Refuse to give mercy.

Sit as judge or jury.

Define God’s patience by my own.

Disregard how God could use me.

#### WHAT TO DO

Choose to love my enemy.

Speak words guided by the mind of Christ.

In faith, believe for what God wants to do.

Speak from mercy.

Inspect the fruit.

Stretch to see God’s patience (further than I would go).

Pay attention to my conversations.

#### Challenge:

- What conversations are you having with people?
- How often do you offer mercy to the undeserving?
- What’s motivating your desire to judge/condemn others?
- What needs to be dealt with to rise above the divisive conversations everyone else is having?

#### Check out these FREE online resources:

##### STUDIES BY DOUG BRITTON:

##### Replace Irritation with Grace

[www.dougbrittonbooks.com/resources/extend-grace](http://www.dougbrittonbooks.com/resources/extend-grace)

##### Love Other People As-Is

[www.dougbrittonbooks.com/resources/love-others-as-is](http://www.dougbrittonbooks.com/resources/love-others-as-is)

##### Listen Carefully to Deeply Understand

[www.dougbrittonbooks.com/resources/listen-carefully](http://www.dougbrittonbooks.com/resources/listen-carefully)

##### SUMMIT UP DEVOTIONALS:

[heightschurchonline.com/daily-devotionals/](http://heightschurchonline.com/daily-devotionals/)

#### MY STORY

- 1) What did you have for breakfast this morning?
- 2) If you could see one movie again for the first time, what would it be and why?

#### QUICK REVIEW

- 3) Of all “*The One Voice*” messages, what was one thing that stood out to you more than others?

#### DIGGING DEEPER/ TAKING IT HOME

The following questions are from Philippians Chapters 3 and 4.

- 4) In Chapter 3 Paul encourages the church to do something. What is it, and how can you apply it to your own life?
- 5) From Chapter 3 what does Paul find value in? How can you and I do the same?
- 6) In Philippians 3:17 Paul tells the church to do something. What is it, and why is it important?
- 7) In Chapter 4 he tells us to fix our thoughts on something. What is it, and why is it so important to do this?
- 8) Of all the things we have talked about over the past eight weeks, what has stuck with you the most?

9) How can we encourage you in your personal growth in listening to “the *One voice?*”

### **CHAIR TIME TOOL**

Read the book of Philippians this week (all 4 chapters each day). Seek God’s response for the following points:

- 1) Is there something else you want me to see in this book that I don’t see?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- 2) Help me to find contentment and greater value in knowing you, Lord.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- 3) Thank Him for something He is doing in your life.

### **Summit Up Devotionals:**

4) Tune in to our daily devotionals to be inspired and encouraged. Our team shares insights into scripture along with their personal stories. These short videos offer real hope for real people and will help you in your journey of becoming a fully devoted follower of Jesus. Join us for a few minutes each weekday as we experience God together.

Sign-up at [heightschurchonline.com/daily-devotionals/](https://heightschurchonline.com/daily-devotionals/) to have them delivered to your inbox. Also available through our church app and Facebook page.