

“Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, and pray for those who spitefully use you.” - Luke 6:27-28

Love Your Enemies

4th Sunday of Paona

Why is this commandment so important?

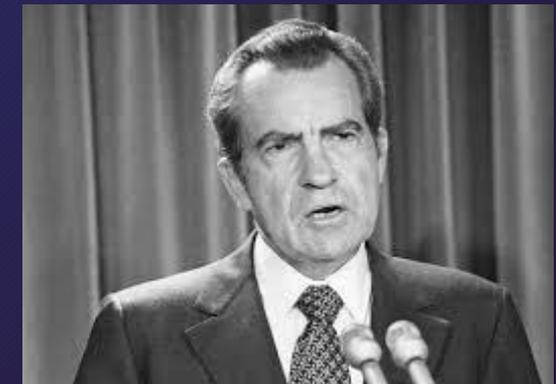
1. It is necessary to spread the gospel
 - “So they departed from the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for His name.” (Acts 5:41)



Why is this commandment so important?

2. Truly the only way to make a positive change

- *“Put us in jail, and we will go in with humble smiles on our faces, still loving you...But be assured that we will wear you down by our capacity to suffer.”*
(Dr. Martin L. King, Jr)
- *“Those who hate you don’t win unless you hate them.”* (Richard Nixon)
- *“Love is the only force capable of transforming an enemy into a friend.”*
(Dr. Martin L. King, Jr)



Who is your enemy?

1. Anyone who curses you
 - Shimei
2. Anyone who hates you
 - “If the world hates you, you know that it hated Me before it hated you. If you were of the world, the world would love its own. Yet because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you.” (Jn. 15:18-19)



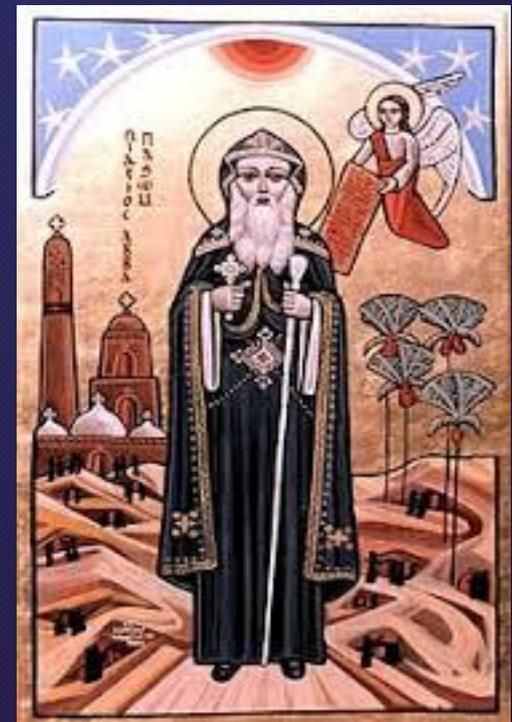
Who is your enemy?

3. Anyone who spitefully uses you

- Those who use or abuse you
- Those who falsely accuse you

How to love your enemy?

- “Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, and pray for those who spitefully use you.” (Lk. 6:27-28)
1. Bless them
 2. Do good to them
 - “If your enemy is hungry, give him bread to eat; And if he is thirsty, give him water to drink; For so you will heap coals of fire on his head, And the Lord will reward you.” (Pro. 25:21-22)
 - EX: St. Pachomius



How to love your enemy?

3. Pray for them

- “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do.” (Lk. 23:34)
- “Lord, do not charge them with this sin.” (Acts 7:60)

4. Active goodwill

- “Love suffers long and is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up; 5 does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil; 6 does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth; 7 bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.” (1 Cor. 13:4-8)



Summary

Why is this command so important?

1. It is necessary to spread the gospel
2. Truly the only way to make a positive change

Who is your enemy?

1. Anyone who curses you
2. Anyone who hates you
3. Anyone who spitefully uses you

How to love your enemy?

1. Bless them
2. Do good to them
3. Pray for them
4. Active goodwill