

Loving Your Enemy

"If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who are good to you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners do that.... But love your enemies, do good to them.... Then your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High, because he is kind to the ungrateful and wicked." Luke 6:32-25 (NIV)

How to respond lovingly to an enemy:

1. Find _____ in God.

*"Saul's son Jonathan went to David at Horesh and helped him find strength in God."
1 Samuel 23:16 (NIV)*

2. Find a Godly _____ for help.

3. Rely on God's _____.

*"Don't be afraid," he said. "My father Saul will not lay a hand on you. You will be king over Israel, and I will be second to you. Even my father Saul knows this."
1 Samuel 23:17 (NIV)*

4. Repay evil with _____.

"He came to the sheep pens along the way; a cave was there, and Saul went in to relieve himself. David and his men were far back in the cave. The men said, "This is the day the Lord spoke of when he said to you, 'I will give your enemy into your hands for you to deal with as you wish.'" Then David crept up unnoticed and cut off a corner of Saul's robe." 1 Samuel 24:3-4 (NIV)

5. Leave the _____ to God.

*But David said to Abishai, "Don't destroy him! Who can lay a hand on the Lord's anointed and be guiltless? As surely as the Lord lives," he said, "the Lord himself will strike him, or his time will come and he will die, or he will go into battle and perish. But the Lord forbid that I should lay a hand on the Lord's anointed. Now get the spear and water jug that are near his head, and let's go."
1 Samuel 26:9-11 (NIV)*