

## Scripture and Background Information for August 25-August 31

### *How to Fight Without Losing*

To prepare for discussion each week, group members should use the **Discussion Guide** to complete the **GOD'S WORDS** and **MY WORDS** columns using the scriptures at the bottom of this page. You will notice that we are continuing the pattern of your discussing scripture *after* the Sunday message on that passage.

#### **Background for Luke 6:32-37**

Relationships are hard. Whether with a roommate, a spouse, a parent, a child, a friend, or someone you barely know, conflict is inevitable if you stick around long enough – even among godly people. The difference between Christ-followers and the world isn't found in the absence of conflict, but in how we do it. During this series we'll look at 4 strategies for engaging conflict with each other when we're trying to love Jesus without killing each other in the process.

Luke, a non-Jewish physician, builds his gospel narrative according to a historical, chronological presentation of Jesus' life. Luke is the longest of the Gospel accounts presenting Jesus as the perfect man who came to seek and save sinful men. As Jesus' ministry continues throughout Luke, people either believe and follow Him or reject and works towards His execution. As with any of the Gospels, Jesus' greatest enemies are the religious leaders of the day, the Pharisees.

In Luke 6, Jesus alternates between these two crowds, His disciples and His opposition. Yet in verses 32-37, it appears that Jesus could be speaking toward both of these groups. Jesus reminds all those who can hear Him (v27) that to love is to go above and beyond even if the object of that love is one's enemies. Towards the end of Luke, Jesus will again model the best example of that love on the cross.

#### **Scriptures for the upcoming weeks:**

September 1

Jonah 4:4-11

September 8

Genesis 6:5-7:5