

WHEN DIFFICULT PEOPLE ARE HARD TO LOVE

PRECEPT

Ephesians 3:20

²⁰ Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us,

PROMISE

HUMILITY. Jesus, who has all authority and power, humbled himself to serve people like us, broken people, and even those he knew would hurt us. But Jesus said, “The slave is not greater than the master, and if the master sets an example, if Jesus sets the example to humble ourselves, we must follow that example.” What makes it so difficult for us to love others is when we think too highly of ourselves. We need to humble ourselves just as Jesus did; Jesus says, “Have humility.”

WHAT CAN I GIVE? Luke 10:25-37 tells the story of the Good Samaritan, who served a stranger at his expense with no material gain. Don't ask. What can I get out of it? But actively help and show compassion even at our personal cost or inconvenience. Often, we think we need something in our hands to make things right, but what truly restores relationships isn't what's given—it's a heart that is sincerely repentant.

SURRENDER EVERYTHING. Surrendering to God doesn't mean losing something. It puts you in a position to gain something infinitely more valuable. Trust in Him, for He is good and has plans that will benefit His people, even if those plans involve pain and suffering. God won't steal from you, from us; He will only grow what you give Him. The best way to manage it well is to surrender it back to Him, and He will give you something even more valuable under your care.

The key to loving difficult people is to have humility. Ask what you can give. Give patience. Pray for them. and ultimately surrender it to Him because when we give it to the Lord, He takes control over it, he will turn it for good for those who love Him.

PRACTICE

- 1. Difficult.** Is there anyone in particular difficult for you to deal with right now? What do you do when this person triggers you?
- 2. In action.** How can you show compassion or selflessness towards someone who is difficult to love? And how can we pray/encourage you regarding this?

PRAYER

I. Leaders

- Pray for protection and provision for our elders, leaders, and coordinators.

II. North Life Groups

- Pray for these couples as they lead; Ocampo, Ico, and Imperial.

III. West Life Groups

- Pray for these couples as they lead; Oliveros, Fabregas & Padilla.

IV. East Life Groups

- Pray for these couples as they lead the East groups: Domingo & Torres.

V. South Life Group

- Pray for the Drapeza couple as they lead the South group.

VI. Circles

- Pray for the Manalo couple as they lead our young pros and youth closer to God.

VII. Life Groups

- Pray for the formation of more life groups for God's glory.