

You're special!

How important are you?

You are important enough for God to use you to bless others. And here's one significant way to do that: "Love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you." Matthew 5:44. But how can we love people we don't like? We can do it by desiring and working for their highest good, regarding them as those for whom Christ died and who are therefore intensely valuable to him.

Adopting that kind of attitude toward one's enemies amounts to loving them without first requiring them to change their attitude toward us. It means our love is unconditional - not conditioned on their first behaving differently.

Jesus set the example here. "While we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." Romans 5: 8. When we were at our worst, he unconditionally showed us his great love and forgiveness.

By a supernatural act God created us. And when he makes us a blessing to our enemies that is another part of his supernatural activity - all he needs from us is our cooperation.

So go out on a limb; that's where the fruit is!

* * *

You won't win if you don't begin!

Ken Packer