

# RETHINK

Part 5: Enemies  
Episode 67 || July 18, 2021



## Main Points

We've chosen to be defined by what we are against.

Defining ourselves by what we are against forces us to continually fight against others.

Jesus frees us to define ourselves by who we are FOR.

When we define ourselves by what we are against, we define others as either allies or enemies.

When we define ourselves by what we are against we respond to "enemies" with judgement not mercy... and expect Jesus to do the same.

We don't have to fight for Jesus. Jesus can handle himself

Love is greater than faith.

If you are more excited about showing righteous anger than merciful love— you're not righteous, you're just angry.

Reconciliation is greater than retribution.

Jesus frees us and empowers us to genuinely forgive and love our enemy.

Defining ourselves by who we are FOR allows us to freely love others.

## Message Passage

*As the time drew near for him to ascend to heaven, Jesus resolutely set out for Jerusalem. He sent messengers ahead to a Samaritan village to prepare for his arrival. But the people of the village did not welcome Jesus because he was on his way to Jerusalem. When James and John saw this, they said to Jesus, "Lord, should we call down fire from heaven to burn them up?" But Jesus turned and rebuked them. So they went on to another village.*

Luke 9:51-56

## Discussion Questions

1. How have you seen God working in your life and sphere of influence this past week?
2. What do you tend to be AGAINST? What would change if you chose to define yourself by who you are FOR instead?
3. Read [Luke 6:27-36](#). How does this contrast with other codes of conduct in the world?
4. What enemy/enemies do you need to pray for and love this week? How can

## "Show Notes" Resources & Links:

**Let us know you're here!**  
[Transcript](#) || [Kids Stuff](#) ||  
[Podcast](#)

**Music** we listened to:  
[Guardians Inferno: The Sneepers Ft. David Hasselhoff](#):  
[I'm a Believer: Smash Mouth](#):  
[Chan Chan](#): Buena Vista Social Club

**Recommended Resources:**  
[Love Does](#)- Bob Goff

**Social Media Giveaways:**  
This week: [Roth's Fresh Markets](#)  
Last week: [Happy Bibimbap](#)

**July 25th:** Picnic & Baptisms  
[www.yourcrosscreek.com/party](http://www.yourcrosscreek.com/party)

**Suggested Bible Reading:**  
Micah 6:6-8, Romans 12:9-21,  
1 Corinthians 13,  
1 Peter 3:8-12

We can only do this with your kind  
**Donations.** Thank you!

## Weekly Challenge

1. Read [Luke 6:27-36](#)
2. Pray **FOR** your enemies (by name) and **LOVE** them (gift? note? kindness?)

**ALLIANCE RESOURCES HERE:**  
[www.yourcrosscreek.com/alliances](http://www.yourcrosscreek.com/alliances)