

# *Essentials of Christianity*

*Wednesday, December 7, 2011*

# Essentials Review

- Essential #1: There is (one) God
- Essential #2: The Scriptures are the source of Truth
- Essential #3: Humanity is made by God in His Image
- Essential #4: Humanity broke God's creation

# Essentials Review

- Essential #5: God is the only Savior
- Essential #6: The only Savior saves us by his grace
- Essential #7: Salvation by grace comes through faith (believing)
- Essential #8: Grace works when faith (believing) results in action

# Essentials Review

- Essential #9: Forgiveness: You must give it in order to get it
- Essential #10: Love: You must love God
- Essential #11: Love: Fear of the Lord
- Essential #12: Love: Your neighbor as yourself

Love: Even your enemies  
ESSENTIAL #13

## Matthew 5:43-45

You have heard the law that says, 'Love your neighbor' and hate your enemy.

But I say, love your enemies! Pray for those who persecute you! In that way, you will be acting as true children of your Father in heaven. For he gives his sunlight to both the evil and the good, and he sends rain on the just and the unjust alike.

## Matthew 5:46-48

If you love only those who love you, what reward is there for that? Even corrupt tax collectors do that much. If you are kind only to your friends, how are you different from anyone else? Even pagans do that. *But you are to be perfect, even as your Father in heaven is perfect.*

## Luke 6:27-30

But to you who are willing to listen, I say, **love your enemies!** Do good to those who hate you. Bless those who curse you. Pray for those who hurt you. If someone slaps you on one cheek, offer the other cheek also. If someone demands your coat, offer your shirt also. Give to anyone who asks; and when things are taken away from you, don't try to get them back.

## Luke 6:31-34

Do to others as you would like them to do to you. If you love only those who love you, why should you get credit for that? Even sinners love those who love them! And if you do good only to those who do good to you, why should you get credit? Even sinners do that much! And if you lend money only to those who can repay you, why should you get credit? Even sinners will lend to other sinners for a full return.

## Luke 6:35-36

*Love your enemies!* Do good to them. Lend to them without expecting to be repaid. Then your reward from heaven will be very great, and you will truly be acting as children of the Most High, for he is kind to those who are unthankful and wicked. *You must be compassionate, just as your Father is compassionate.*

## Luke 6:37-38

Do not judge others, and you will not be judged. Do not condemn others, or it will all come back against you. Forgive others, and you will be forgiven. Give, and you will receive. Your gift will return to you in full-- pressed down, shaken together to make room for more, running over, and poured into your lap. The amount you give will determine the amount you get back.

Love: Even your enemies  
ESSENTIAL #13