

**Series: "I WISH THE BIBLE DIDN'T SAY THAT"**  
**Part 3: "LOVE YOUR ENEMIES"**  
**Crossroads Community Church**  
**June 9, 2019**

*...I say, love your enemies! Pray for those who persecute you!*

Matthew 5:44 (NLT)

<sup>43</sup> *"You have heard the law that says, 'Love your neighbor' and hate your enemy. <sup>44</sup> But I say, love your enemies! Pray for those who persecute you!*

Matthew 5:43-44 (NLT)

**3 Truths about Loving Your Enemies:**

**1. Loving your enemies is not \_\_\_\_\_**

➤ **Do you \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ for them?**

<sup>45</sup> *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 5:45 (NLT)

**2. Loving your enemies \_\_\_\_\_ your love for \_\_\_\_\_**

➤ **Do you play \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ them differently?**

<sup>46</sup> *If you love only those who love you, what reward is there for that? Even corrupt tax collectors do that much. <sup>47</sup> If you are kind only to your friends, how are you different from anyone else? Even pagans do that.*

Matthew 5:46-47 (NLT)

**3. Loving your enemies is not \_\_\_\_\_**

<sup>17</sup> *Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everyone. <sup>18</sup> If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. <sup>19</sup> Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: "It is mine to avenge; I will repay," says the Lord. <sup>20</sup> On the contrary: "If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink. In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head." <sup>21</sup> Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.*

Romans 12:17-21 (NIV)

➤ **How are you \_\_\_\_\_ from \_\_\_\_\_ else?**

**Main Point:**

➤ **The test of your Christian character is not how you treat your \_\_\_\_\_, but how you treat your \_\_\_\_\_**

<sup>48</sup> *But you are to be perfect, even as your Father in heaven is perfect.*

Matthew 5:48 (NLT)

**This Week's Challenge:**

➤ **This week I will pray for \_\_\_\_\_**

**Sermon Notes:**

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