

Branches: LIVE

Timmy Rotter

“Say YES”

Icebreaker: Seen anything lately that made you smile?

What to Expect:

- Because life involves interacting with other people, we will inevitably run into someone (or many someones) that we simply do not get along with. Sometimes we even use the word “hate” to describe the level of relationship we have. But God’s way is **completely** different than ours.

Texts for Discussion:

- Read and discuss **Matthew 25:14-30**
- Read and discuss **Jonah**

Going Further:

- We have talents, invested into us by God, for the express purpose of performing God’s will. What sorts of talents do you have? How do you think God wants to use those talents to reach out to others?
 - Does that include the people you don’t like? Think on Jonah and his reasoning for not obeying God in the beginning.
- Does a face appear in your mind when “hate” or “strong dislike” is mentioned? Are you willing to share who that is? Why or why not?
 - How can you utilize the gifts you have from God to serve those who you think are less or unworthy of it? Remember that you are also unworthy of God’s perfection, and it is only by His grace that we are saved.

Going Deeper:

- If you could reach out to “that person” or persons to bless them, knowing God would use your efforts (even if it was immediately evident), would you?
 - Great news! That’s exactly what He wants to do with you. Make a plan to serve your enemy, and then go for it! They might not thank you, but being at peace with God, living in obedience, is so much more reward than the gratitude of this world.

Prayer: Prayer should be an active part of our daily lives. Collect prayer needs and celebrations from each member, and encourage everyone to practice praying each day.