



# THE GENIUS OF JESUS

GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE



## THE GENIUS OF JESUS: PART 4

*Forrest Jenan – October 11, 2015*

### HANG OUT (warming up to the topic)

1. Take time to review this week's teaching and discuss your reactions. Talk about what most challenged, puzzled, and encouraged you.
2. Let's have a little fun and "go on record." Where do you stand with Jesus' teaching of "love your enemies" and non-violent response? Are there circumstances in which Christians can and should resort to violence?

### HEAR (listening to God through Scripture)

3. Read Matthew 5:38-48

**Leaders Notes:** Remember the Sermon on the Mount should be understood as an invitation to live in a way that best fits what God is doing in the world. It is not another set of rules. It is a particular "way" of doing life that allows us to stand most fully in God's flow.

- What verse or idea stands out to you and why?
- In v38-39 Jesus quotes Scripture that represents civil law for Israel and then tells his followers not participate in that way. What are the implications of this?
- Talk about the implications of v40-42 (our 4 examples).
- How should our love be like God's love? What would that look like practically?
- Jesus teaches on the same themes in Luke 6:27-38. What does Luke's version contribute to our understanding of Jesus' teaching on the way of peace?

### HUDDLE (making it personal and praying together)

4. In what relationship in your life do you think you should learn to turn your cheek, offer your coat, and go the second mile? Talk about specific ways you might do this and what the outcome might be.
5. Pray for each other regarding your continued spiritual growth during this series.