

Discussion Guide - Love Your Enemies

Main Idea

For the last week of the Sermon on the Mount series, Pastor Matt circled back to one of the hardest lessons that Jesus taught. While it's not that hard to hear, it is very difficult to put into practice, because it requires us to truly love those that hate us. This is so counter-cultural because we live in a society that teaches up to payback our enemies with more hatred. But Jesus says that loving people is a requirement for the new kingdom, and He gives us some practical ways to love our enemies:

Make It Practical

- Overlook the offense from them
- Pray for them
- Forgive them
- Bless them
- Do good to them

"But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you,"

Matthew 5:44

Talk About It

- 1. What are your first thoughts when you find out someone is angry or hates you? Why do you feel that?
- 2. Why is easier to hate your enemy instead of love your enemy?
- 3. What changes in your life when you begin to love your enemy? Why is this better?
- 4. Out of the five in Make it Practical, which one is the easiest step and which is the hardest step?
- 5. What is one practical thing that you can do to love your enemy?



"Nevertheless, [Jesus] endured this all without retaliation and even with forgiveness on His lips." -Chuck Quarles

Prayer

Jesus, thank you for showing us practically how to love our enemies. We need Your help in loving our enemies the way that You taught us to. Give us a heart for those that hate us, and show us how You love them. In Your name, Amen.

Scriptures Used

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