



Jesus on: Loving People

Matthew 5:38-48

Love is the **necessary action** of every Christian.

You have heard that it was said, "An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth."

Matthew 5:38

But I say to you, Do not resist the one who is evil. But if anyone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to him the other also.

Matthew 5:39

And if anyone would sue you and take your tunic,
let him have your cloak as well.

Matthew 5:40

And if anyone forces you to go one mile,
go with him two miles.

Matthew 5:41

Give to the one who begs from you,
and do not refuse the one who would borrow from you.

Matthew 5:42

You have heard that it was said,
"You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy."

Matthew 5:43

But I say to you,
Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you,

Matthew 5:44

So that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven.
For he makes his **sun rise** on the evil and on the good,
and **sends rain** on the just and on the unjust.

Matthew 5:45

For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have?
Do not even the tax collectors do the same?

Matthew 5:46

And if you greet only your brothers, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same?

Matthew 5:47

You therefore must **be perfect**,
as your heavenly Father is perfect.

Matthew 5:48



Jesus on: Loving People

Matthew 5:38-48

Context is important.

Everyone then who **hears these words of mine and does them** will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock. And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on the rock. And everyone who **hears these words of mine and does not do them** will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand. And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell, and great was the fall of it.

Matthew 7:24-27

1. Love does not retaliate (38-42)

Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." To the contrary, "if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head." Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Romans 12:17-21

- When someone insults you (39)

When **he was reviled**, he did not revile in return;
when **he suffered**, he did not threaten, but continued
entrusting himself to him who judges justly.

1 Peter 2:23

- When someone insults you (39)
- When someone demands much of you (40-41)

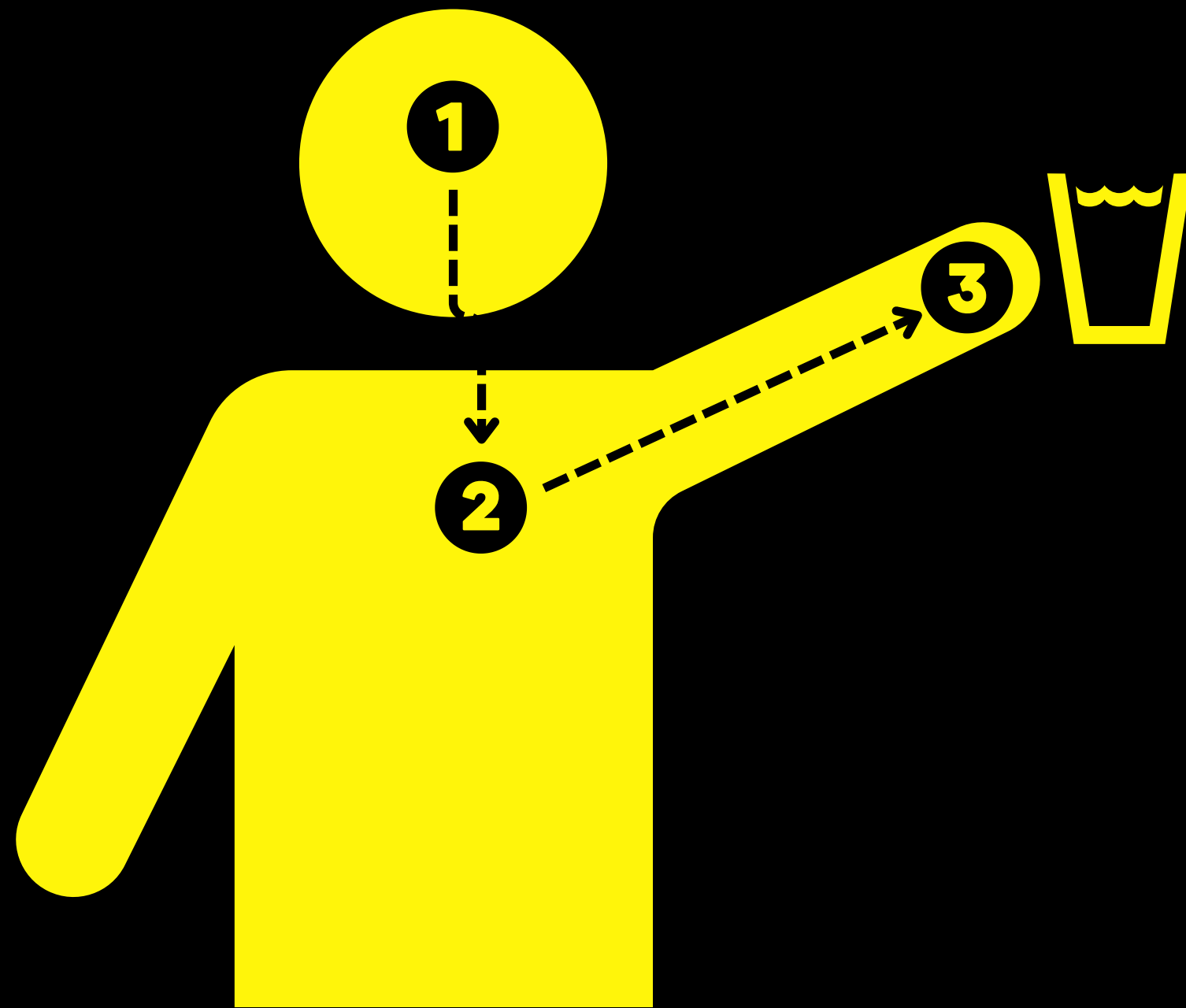
- When someone insults you (39)
- When someone demands much of you (40-41)
- When someone asks you for something (42)



1. Love does not retaliate (38-42)

2. Love extends to all people—even your enemies (43-48)

Agape



- ① love is a decision
- ② love is a commitment
- ③ love is an action
- ⊗ love is not a feeling

You therefore must **be perfect**,
as your heavenly Father is perfect.

Matthew 5:48

Love is the **necessary action** of every Christian.