

Worship Guide

SUMMER ON THE MOUNT - LOVE YOUR ENEMIES

*You have heard that it was said, "Love your neighbor and hate your enemy." But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be children of your Father in heaven. He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous. If you love those who love you, what reward will you get? Are not even the tax collectors doing that? And if you greet only your own people, what are you doing more than others? Do not even pagans do that? Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect. — **Matthew 5:43-48 (NIV)***

You have heard that it was said, "Love your neighbor and hate your enemy." But I tell you, **love your enemies** and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be children of your Father in heaven.

It's hard to hate the people you pray for consistently.

Pray for your enemies.

*But Jesus often withdrew to lonely places and prayed. — **Luke 5:16 (NIV)***

Attempt to connect with your enemies out of compassion for them.

*Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. — **Colossians 3:12 NIV***

Understand this, my dear brothers and sisters: You must all be quick

to listen, slow to speak, and slow to get angry. — James 1:19

Forgive your enemies, because it's God's best for you.

And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. —
Matthew 6:12 NIV

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Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

Christ-like maturity is displayed in the way we love our enemies.

And Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do."
— **Luke 23:34**

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