



## Life Group Questions

### What If Jesus Was Serious?

Week 3 | Matthew 5:38-47 | Jan 21, 2024

**ICEBREAKER:** Jake shared his driving story as an example of something that easily irritates him. What are the things that people do that drive you crazy? (As a bonus, any pranksters out there who admit to intentionally doing something to frustrate others for fun? Stories would be great!)

1. What stood out from Sunday's message? (Including any post-message discussion with others) What encouraged, challenged, or intrigued you?

#### Read Matthew 5:38-47 together.

2. What Old Testament verses is Jesus referencing in Matthew 5:38-42? [Ex 21:24, Lev 24:20, Dec 19:21]
3. What custom is Jesus referencing in v. 41? [At that time, Roman rule required that soldiers walk hundreds of miles from post to post, carrying up to 100 pounds of weapons, equipment, and armor. To expedite travel and keep soldiers from becoming completely exhausted, Rome decreed that any soldier could command any bystander to carry his pack for 1 mile. Walking 1 mile was an exhausting, demanding job that would have been hard for anyone under Roman rule, but they would have done it or risk imprisonment, injury, or death. Still, to voluntarily serve by walking another mile? That seemed insane advice!]
4. What are the drawbacks to an "eye for eye" mentality? Where do we draw the line between our rights and responsibility to be forgiving and patient?
5. How can doing good change a bad situation?
6. Review verses 43-47. What underlying emotions and attitudes create cliques or cause divisions between groups?
7. How does God treat evil/good people and unrighteous/righteous people similarly? What does that tell us about God's character, and what can we learn from it?
8. What is the cost of unresolved conflict? How has it negatively impacted Faith Church over the last several months? In what ways has the conflict at Faith brought hope and healing?
9. Jake mentioned three action steps: (1) Kill it with kindness, (2) love others, and (3) pray for others — what one do you do well? What one do you struggle with?
10. How can we help you respond to/apply something from the message this week? In what other ways can we support you this week?