



What is the series about?

We will be going through Jesus' sermon on the mount in Matthew from chapters 5-7 and exploring what it looks like to live like Jesus.

Listen to the audio

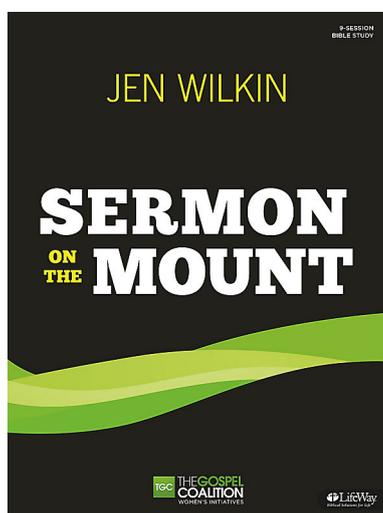
On the King's Norwich app or at: kingsnorwich.com/likejesus

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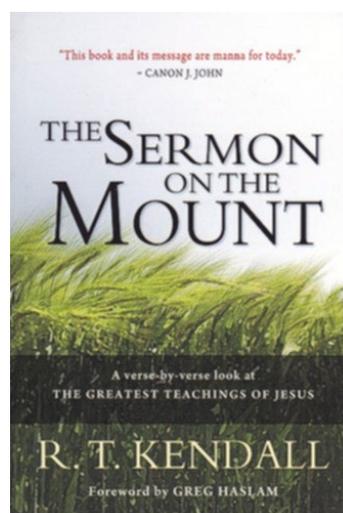
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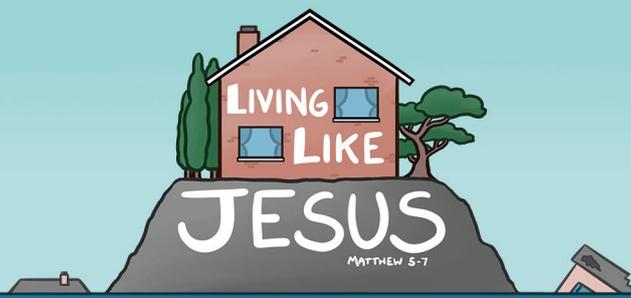
Recommended Reading

Sermon on the Mount
Jen Wilkin



The Sermon on the Mount
R.T. Kendall





Title: Love your enemies

Speaker: Paul Hatton (City West) Bible Ref: Matthew 5:43-48

Overview

God redefines the Jewish legal requirement to love your neighbour by making it infinitely harder. Loving only your neighbour is not enough, now you have to love your enemies. Understanding the Gospel is key to fulfilling this command:

God created us for loving relationship but we rebelled and became His enemies - *Rom 5:10* "While we were ENEMIES we were reconciled to God by the DEATH of his Son."

Reconciled by His DEATH - Our enmity required death. Jesus has taken our place, took on all our enmity. So that he might call us friends.

God loves us - "God, being rich in mercy, because of the GREAT LOVE with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ" (*Eph 2:4-5*)

God gives us a new heart and new desires if we repent and trust in Jesus. (*Ezek 36:26*)

Questions to help your group understand the truth preached

On Sundays we hear God's word preached and as we listen well we trust that God is changing us in the moment. Use these questions to further explore the truth that was taught.

1. Who were the enemies of Jesus' listeners? (*E.g. The oppressive Roman government*)
2. What type of love is Jesus talking about here? (*Agape – A willful decision*)
3. What does praying for your enemies look like? (*Praying for their good. Luke 23:34*)

Questions to help your group apply the truth preached

When applied, God's Word will enable us to love God and to love others. These questions will help your group apply the truth understood in a way that leads to transformed lives.

1. Talk about a time you forgave an enemy? How did it feel? What was it like afterwards?
2. What does loving your enemies practically look like? Be specific, especially if you have any non-Christian enemies. (*Prov 25:21-22*)
3. Maybe in smaller groups: how would you feel about telling a non-Christian friend the part of the Gospel that they're an enemy of God? How can you overcome any negative feelings about doing that? (*Talk about your own enmity with God. Pray to be filled with the HS*)

Questions to help your group dig deeper

Having understood the truth preached, and explored how it can be applied to your lives why not dig a little deeper and ask your group the following questions:

4. What incentive does Jesus give us? (*That we will experience intimacy as his children vs 45*)
5. What does *Romans 10:1* tell us about praying for people who aren't Christians.