



THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT

Discussion Questions 5/18/25

Love For Enemies

Intro: Jesus challenged the common misinterpretation of the Old Testament's command to love our neighbor, revealing how cultural and religious assumptions can distort biblical truth. True love includes both inward disposition and outward action—not just begrudging kindness, but heartfelt concern even for those who oppose us. Our real enemy is not other people, but the spiritual darkness behind human division and hostility. Ultimately, the call to love our enemies is a call to reflect God's grace and to reclaim the church's witness as a people marked by radical, transformative love.

Story: Has Jesus ever helped you to love someone you didn't expect to love? Share about that.

Read: Matthew 5:43-48

1. What stood out to you most from the sermon, and why?
2. In what ways have you personally seen the church be perceived as judgmental or unloving? How does that align or conflict with your experience of church?
3. What do you think it's like, emotionally and spiritually, to pray for someone you considered an "enemy"?
4. Read 2 Kings 6:8-23. What does this teach you about love for your enemy?
5. Read Exodus 23:4-5. How can you apply this today?

Pray for:

- Those who persecute you
- Those who persecute the global church
- The Holy Spirit to stir your affections for all people