

WORDS OF JESUS

SERMON SERIES

DISCUSSION GUIDE

LET HIM HAVE YOUR COAT

SPEAKER: Steve Mitchell

DATE: April 26, 2026

TEXT(S): Matt. 5:38-42, with Ex. 21:24,
John 4:28-30, Mark 10:46-50, and Heb. 12:1-2

***HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE:** This resource is designed to help you, and your group, step through a progression of engagement with the Bible passage(s) and the speaker's message.*

Our goal is to help you better understand and apply B4's teaching.

MESSAGE SUMMARY + DISCUSSION PROMPTS

Jesus contrasts the Mosaic Law's requirements of "an eye for an eye" with the radical generosity of His Kingdom, namely, "...give your coat also." While the Law was helpful, restraining revenge and establishing a justice system, Jesus calls His followers to something more: a voluntary, self-giving love that restores relationships and reflects what it means to be truly human. Through examples like the Samaritan woman and blind Bartimaeus, we see that following Jesus means loosening our grip on possessions, rights, and self-protection. True freedom comes when Jesus has our hearts and our possessions no longer possess us.

LEAN IN: *These are icebreakers and warm-ups, mostly to get the group talking and start the flow of conversation. Choose one and talk it over for 5 minutes.*

1. Have you ever been in a situation where you felt strongly that you deserved justice or repayment?
2. When you hear "turn the other cheek," what is your immediate reaction?
3. Have you ever experienced unexpected generosity from someone? What impact did it have?
4. What does "security" usually look like for you: money, control, reputation, relationships, or something else?
5. What is one small act of generosity you've experienced recently that stayed with you?

LOOK DOWN: *These are questions about the Bible passage(s) above. Spend about 10 minutes discussing your choice of two or three questions:*

1. In Matthew 5:38-42, what is Jesus correcting or expanding from the Old Testament law, and why?
2. What does Jesus mean by giving more than what is demanded rather than insisting on legal rights?
3. In John 4, why is the Samaritan woman leaving her water jar such a significant detail?
4. Likewise, in Mark 10, why does Bartimaeus throwing off his cloak matter so much?
5. How does Hebrews 12 distinguish between sin and "hindrances," and why is that important?

LOOK OUT: *These questions help connect the world of the Bible to today. Spend about 10 minutes discussing your choice of two or three questions:*

1. Where do you see “eye for an eye” thinking most clearly in your/our culture today?
2. How does our world encourage us to protect our rights rather than practice generosity?
3. In what ways does consumer culture empower possessions to “possess” us?
4. Why does radical generosity often look foolish or weak in modern society?
5. How does fear of scarcity keep people from living generously?

LOOK IN: *These questions help you consider how to engage the teaching for yourself. Spend about 15-20 minutes discussing your choice of two or three questions:*

1. In what area(s) of your life are you most tempted to keep score or demand fairness?
2. Think of your relationships. Which one might Jesus be asking you to “give your cloak also”?
3. Do you tend to view generosity as a burden or as a privilege? Why?
4. What would it look like for you to practice “non-transactional” love this week?
5. What do you most want right now, and how does that reveal what or who you trust?

LIVE IT OUT: *These practical action steps help you apply this message to day-to-day life. Choose one prompt and talk it over for 5 minutes:*

1. Offer a daily open-hand prayer: Each morning, hold your hands open (even if it feels silly at first) and pray something like this, “Jesus, everything I have belongs to You: my time, money, relationships, and rights. Show me today where You are asking me to trust You and give generously.” Ask specifically, “Today, what is my cloak?”
2. An evening relationship examen: Each night before you go to bed, reflect on one difficult interaction from the day and ask: “Lord, where was I keeping score? Where was I protecting myself? Help me see and learn what a Spirit-shaped response would have looked like.” End by praying for that person and asking God for a holy imagination so you might respond differently tomorrow, to them or to another.

You can find B4's [Series Resources here](#).

