

Loving the Unlovable:

The Radical Call to Love Our Enemies

Matthew 5:38-48 (ESV)

“You have heard that it was said, ‘An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.’ 39 But I say to you, Do not resist the one who is evil. But if anyone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to him the other also. 40 And if anyone would sue you and take your tunic, let him have your cloak as well. 41 And if anyone forces you to go one mile, go with him two miles. 42 Give to the one who begs from you, and do not refuse the one who would borrow from you. 43 “You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ 44 But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, 45 so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven. For he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust. 46 For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? 47 And if you greet only your brothers, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same? 48 You therefore must be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

The real test of our heart is not how we treat our friends, it's how we treat our enemies.

1. When you are insulted, refuse to

Scripture references: Proverbs 12:16, 1 Peter 3:9

2. When you are wrong, go above and beyond to make _____

Scripture reference: Luke 19:8

3. When you are mistreated, respond with

4. When you are persecuted, demonstrate

Scripture reference: Genesis 50:19-20, Genesis 41:51-52