

Loving People Like Jesus Does

Summary

We turn the other cheek when we do not take it personally and refuse to get even.

Read the Passage: Matthew 5:38-48

Make observations while reading the text.

Main Idea in the text:

Jesus expects his followers to love all people, especially their enemies, in the same way He loves them.

Do not resist the one who is evil.

Jesus is teaching that his followers should not readily and easily hold grudges, seek vengeance or revenge.

“Jesus followers must regard all people, even evil people, as ‘neighbors’ and relate to them lovingly rather than hatefully.” Charles Quarles

Proverbs 25:21-22 goes hand in hand with the Sermon the Mount

²¹⁻²² If your enemy is hungry, give him food to eat; if he is thirsty, give him water to drink. In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head, and the Lord will reward you.

Examples Jesus shared concerning loving our enemies

If they slap you, turn the other cheek.

If they ask you for your shirt, hand over your coat as well.

If they ask you to go a mile, go two.

“It’s not about hating our enemies. Hate never accomplished anything except to make us more angry and bitter. Jesus doesn’t say, ‘Love the way your enemies live’ or ‘Support them when they are doing wrong.’ He says, ‘Love them as people.’ We can do that.” —Pastor Chuck Swindoll

Application

1. Love your neighbor, and love your enemy.
2. Pray for those who persecute you.
3. Do not resist; instead, offer to give or help.

Discussion Questions

1. What should you do when unkind things are said about you?
2. What enemy do you need to pray for this week?
3. Give an example of someone that returned kindness for cruelty.