

"Many have learned how to offer the other cheek, but do not know how to love him by whom they were struck."

-Augustine



- 1. Who are my enemies?
- 2. Why must I love them?
- 3. What is that to look like?



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"You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.'

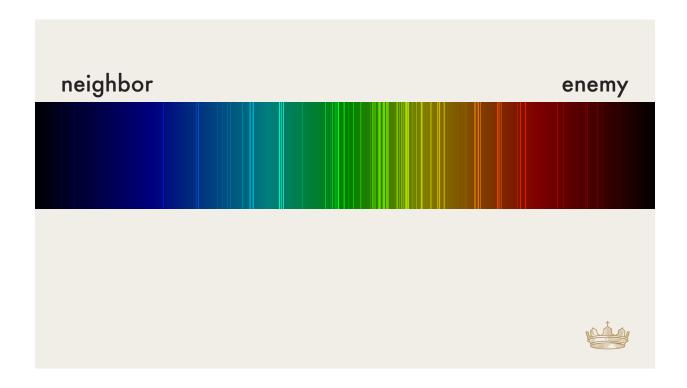
-Matthew 5:43



"You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.

-Matthew 5:43-44









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But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, 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.

-Matthew 5:44-45





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  - a) Praying for them



"Through the medium of prayer we go to our enemy, stand by his side, and plead for him to God."

-Dietrich Bonhoeffer



"If the cruel torture of crucifixion could not silence our Lord's prayer for his enemies, what pain, pride, prejudice or sloth could justify the silencing of ours?"

-John Stott





- 1. Who are my enemies?
- 2. Why must I love them?
- 3. What is that to look like?
  - a) Praying for them
  - b) Loving those who don't love you

For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same?

-Matthew 5:46



Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends.

-1 Corinthians 13:4-8a



- 1. Who are my enemies?
- 2. Why must I love them?
- 3. What is that to look like?
  - a) Praying for them
  - b) Loving those who don't love you
  - c) Greeting those outside your Christian circle

And if you greet only your brothers, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same?

-Matthew 5:47





"In loving his friends.. a man may in a certain sense be loving only himself—a kind of expanded selfishness."

-John Broadus



"When a stranger sojourns with you in your land, you shall not do him wrong. You shall treat the stranger who sojourns with you as the native among you, and you shall love him as yourself, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt: I am the LORD your God."

-Leviticus 19:33-34





For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven...

You therefore must be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

-Matthew 5:20, 48





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