

Love for Enemies
Matthew 5:43-48

1. Let your enemies _____ Christ in you – vv.43-45a

2. Know God's _____ – v. 45b

3. Do the _____ – v. 46-48

To Go

1. Identify and write down a list of individuals who oppose you, who are unkind to you, who are against you, who do not like you, who mistreat you, who cause you to suffer. Take some time and pray for each of them by name. Ask God to soften their hearts and allow their spiritual eyes to be opened to His grace and forgiveness. Ask God to reveal His unconditional love to them through you.
2. Read 1 John 4:7, Luke 6:27-32, Romans 12:14-21, Proverbs 25:21-22, Exodus 23:5, John 13:33-35 Acts 7:52-60, Proverbs 24:17-20.

At Home Study Guide

For the week March 26, 2017

Love for Enemies • Matthew 5:43-48

Quick Review

Continuing in our Red Letters sermon series, we come to Jesus' comments about truth telling in the kingdom of heaven. His message here is a part of Jesus' longest recorded sermon in the New Testament. We encourage you to read Matthew 5-7 in its entirety at least once each week during the series. Ask God to show you ways you can reflect His heart for the world during this season. In your time with the Lord and with your Growth Group, ask and answer these questions to help guide you in responding to Jesus' message from Matthew 5:43-48.

Looking back at the outline or your notes, what stood out to you most from the message on Sunday?

Read the account of the Ten Commandments in Exodus 20:1-21. Discuss how those commandments are still in effect today.

In what ways are we prone to make the commandments more about semantics than about the issues of the heart? How have you seen already in the Red Letters series that Jesus fulfills the law, rather than replaces it? How about in the passage for this week? (Matthew 5:43-48).

What have you learned about yourself from the sermon and reading of the text?

What is your next step of obedience in light of what you read in the text, heard in the message, and discussed as a group?