

Sermon Notes
“Love Your Enemies” (Mt 5:43-48)
May 15, 2022

Discussion Questions

These questions are only a guide. Feel free to share how God has spoken to you, what areas you question &/or do not understand. Allow the Holy Spirit to guide your discussion.

➤ **Love Distorted (5:43; Lev 19)**

Narrowing love

Adding a command

➤ **Love Displayed (5:44)**

Indiscriminate blessing (5:45b-47)

Intended purpose (5:48)

➤ **Love Extravagant (5:45a; 1 Jn 4:7-12)**

In attitude

In action

Think about those closest to you. What standards have guided you about who care about, hang out with, serve or even love? Does the love and care you have for people have conditions?

Take a moment and think who you have considered an enemy. Who are they? What has made them an enemy? How have you justified feeling animosity, even hatred towards them?

Describe a time you have been truly wronged? What is your first response? Now compare that to what Jesus is commanding us to do? What internal struggle does that create and how do we deal with that?

As we struggle to love people as God does, how is the command & promise of ‘Be perfect!’ inspiring? How do we keep that focus and live as true human beings, beings as God intended?

Who is God placing on your heart to love extravagantly? How do we do that? How do we overcome ‘feelings’ and love with a transformed attitude. What does that look like practically, in every day life?
