



Today, we turn to Matthew 5:38-46 where we see Jesus teach a radical approach to relationships. In these verses, Jesus urges us to go beyond the traditional "eye for an eye" retribution and instead pursue non-retaliation, offer the other cheek, exercise radical generosity, and love and pray for our enemies. Jesus' approach to relationships highlights how true righteousness surpasses loving only those who love us in return, exemplifying the love and mercy in God's Kingdom.

**Key Passage:** Matthew 5:38-46

**Discussion Questions:**

1. Where does Jesus' teaching on turning the other cheek (vs. 38-39) rank on your list compared to your typical responses to justice? Why? What implications do Jesus' words have for our behavior when we feel we've been treated unjustly?
2. In what ways does offering more than what is demanded (like giving your cloak when sued for your tunic) or going the extra mile for someone demonstrate radical generosity or sacrifice? How might this apply to a typical conflict at work?
3. What is Jesus advocating when He says we should give to those who ask rather than turn away from those who want to borrow (v. 42)? How should this be balanced with wisdom?
4. How does loving your enemies and praying for those who persecute you transform our concept of love and forgiveness (vs. 43-44)? What are the challenges and benefits of obeying this teaching?
5. What does the idea that God causes the sun to rise on the evil and the good and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous say about God's nature (v. 45)? What does this imply about how we should treat others, regardless of their actions?
6. Why is loving those who love you considered an insufficient standard (v. 46)? How does this elevate the call to love in a way that transcends our natural inclinations?
7. Take a moment and reflect on a few of the questions above and ask: What step of faith is required to follow this command?