

Living Biblically, Part 2 ...Matthew 5:38-48

"Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. He who does not love does not know God, for God is love." ...1John 4:7-8 (NKJV)

"It is a gratuitous well-doing that Christ demands of His people - zeal to aid the helpless, from whom they can expect nothing in return. Now we see what it means to keep our hand open to those who seek: it is to be stretched out generously to those who need our help, and who are unable to repay or beneficence" (charity)" ...John Calvin

1. Punishment fits the crime.. not vengeance... Scripture: Matthew 5:38-40

- Eye for an eye, tooth for a tooth... (Ex. 21:24, Lev 24:19-22, Deut. 19:21)
- Turning the cheek.. Expect more to come.. (Romans 12:17-20)
- Long-suffering with those who hate ... giving more of ourselves to them... be Salt and Light! (Matthew 5:13-14)

2. Giving it all we have... Scripture: Matthew 5:41-42

- Go the second mile... Love cast out fear.... The Gospel! (1 John 4:17-19)
- Give without distinction.

3. Love your neighbors not just our inner circles!... Scripture: Matthew 5:43-45

- Do not hate your enemies... (Lev 19:18, Romans 13:8-10)
- Pray for those who hate you... Christ is our perfect example of Love (Luke 23:34)
- Raining on the just and the unjust... Common Grace.. God still is GOOD when men are not (Acts 14:14-18)

4. Reflect God's love!... Scripture: Matthew 5:46-48

- We are different than those of the world.
- Imitate God's love! Not equality, in relation to His likeness.

Group Discussion

1. What stood out to you in tonight's message and scripture passages? ...*be descriptive!*
2. READ Matthew 5:38-42 together as a group... As men, leaders, fathers, and husbands, how can we serve those who anger us, rather than seek vengeance?
3. READ Matthew 5:43-48 together as a group... As men, leaders, fathers, and husbands, how can we love those who hate us, rather than show anger at them?
4. Is there anything from tonight's discussion that spoke to you personally? In what way(s) does it affect your life?
How will you directly and specifically apply it in your life today?

Take a few moments to share any Prayer Requests with the men in your Group. Write down any requests and commit to pray for one another throughout the week.

(It's great to know that other guys are praying for the important things in your life...and it's great to be praying for the important things in their lives!)

How do the **5 Principles for the Christian Man**, help equip you to apply this to your life?

Discuss your answer with your group...

- Prayer (*Relationship*)
- God's Word (*Knowledge and Understanding*)
- Worship (*Adoration*)
- Fellowship (*Encouragement and Accountability*)
- Service (*Caring for Others, Action to your Belief*)