



Think Like Jesus

PART 7: REVENGE

INTRODUCTION

More often than not, we avoid sins in their extreme form but regularly commit them in a more covert form that Jesus is still very concerned about. In Matthew 5 Jesus gives six examples where, in His masterful fashion, He exposes our real struggle with sin, and he teaches us to transform and sharpen our thinking to the kind of life required of His disciples. The kind of life that truly sets us free! Are you ready to think more like Jesus?

KEY SCRIPTURE

Matthew 5:38-48
Romans 12:21

Romans 13:1-6
Luke 23:34a

Romans 5:10a
1 Corinthians 13:5

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Describe a time when you've been done wrong by somebody else. What happened? How did you want to respond? How did you respond?
2. What things/people offend you the most?
3. Read Matthew 5:38-39. In Jesus' culture a slap on the face was an insult...it would have been extremely offensive to the person receiving the slap. The next time you are insulted or offended, how will you "turn to them the other cheek also?"
4. Pastor Will taught that Jesus' radical new response to injustice is that for His followers it's more important to *give* justice and mercy than to *receive* it. How is this counter-cultural in our world today? How is it counterintuitive to how you instinctively want to live your life?
5. Read Matthew 5:43. The Pharisees taught that Jews were to love other Jews, but there was a list of other people (like Romans and Samaritans) that it was ok to hate. Who is on your list of people that you feel justified in hating? What would have to change inside you to love and pray for them instead?
6. Who will you love, serve, or give to this week that you know will not reciprocate or maybe even appreciate?
7. Who has wronged you? Who do you consider your enemy? Who has persecuted you? How can you show love to them today?

Application Prayer: Jesus, help me to love my enemies the way you love me. I surrender all of me to you today!