



The Notes

LOVE STINKS

Part 3: “You Don’t Have to Like ‘Em To Love ‘Em”

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“You have been taught to love your neighbor and hate your enemy. But I tell you this: love your enemies. Pray for those who torment you and persecute you—in so doing, you become children of your Father in heaven. He, after all, loves each of us—good and evil, kind and cruel. He causes the sun to rise and shine on evil and good alike. He causes the rain to water the fields of the righteous and the fields of the sinner. It is easy to love those who love you—even a tax collector can love those who love him. And it is easy to greet your friends—even outsiders do that! But you are called to something higher: ‘Be perfect, as your Father in heaven is perfect.’”

Matthew 5:43-48 (TVB)

I’M GOING TO LOVE THE PEOPLE I DON’T LIKE BY...

1. ...CHANGING HOW I _____
_____ THEM.

“Forget about the wrong things people do to you, and do not try to get even. Love your neighbor as you love yourself. I am the Lord.”

Leviticus 19:18 (NCV)

“Here is a simple, rule-of-thumb guide for behavior: Ask yourself what you want people to do for you, then grab the initiative and do it for them. Add up God’s Law and Prophets and this is what you get.”

Matthew 7:12 (MSG)

“Don’t be happy when your enemy has troubles. Don’t be glad when they fall. The Lord will see this, and he might be upset with you and decide not to punish your enemy.”

Proverbs 24:17-18 (ERV)

2. ...CHANGING THE WAY I _____ _____.

“Ask God to bless everyone who mistreats you. Ask him to bless them and not to curse them. When others are happy, be happy with them, and when they are sad, be sad. Be friendly with everyone. Don’t be proud and feel that you know more than others. Make friends with ordinary people. Don’t mistreat someone who has mistreated you. But try to earn the respect of others, and do your best to live at peace with everyone. Dear friends, don’t try to get even. Let God take revenge. In the Scriptures the Lord says, ‘I am the one to take revenge and pay them back.’ The Scriptures also say, ‘If your enemies are hungry, give them something to eat. And if they are thirsty, give them something to drink. This will be the same as piling burning coals on their heads.’ Don’t let evil defeat you, but defeat evil with good.”

Romans 12:14-21 (CEV)

3. ...CHANGING WHAT I _____
_____ THEM.

"I'm telling you to love your enemies and do good to them. Lend to people without expecting to get anything back. If you do this, you will have a great reward. You will be children of the Most High God. Yes, because God is good even to the people who are full of sin and not thankful."

Luke 6:35 (ERV)