**HOW TO BE MORE LIKE JESUS**

Build Your Life on the Rock – Part 5

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**1 Peter 3:9 (NIV)**   
Do not repay evil with evil or insult with insult, but with blessing, because to this you were called so that you may inherit a blessing.

Matthew 5:38-48

It has been said that few passages of scripture summarize Christian ethics more succinctly than today's passage. It could also be said that few passages are more misunderstood. There are several recognizable phrases in this passage: "Turn the other cheek"; "Go the second mile"; "Love your enemies." People who have never set foot inside a church are familiar with these sayings. But the question is: What do they mean and how do they apply to our lives today — almost 2000 years after they were spoken?

What do the following verses mean?

**Matthew 5:39 (NIV)**   
But I tell you, Do not resist an evil person…

**Do Not Retaliate**

**Matthew 5:42 (NIV)**   
Give to the one who asks you, and do not turn away from the one who wants to borrow from you.

**Be Generous**

**Matthew 5:48 (NIV)**   
Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

**Be Mature**

We are never more like God than when we love those who don't love us.

**Romans 5:8 (NIV)**   
But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

**1 John 4:19 (NIV)**   
We love because he first loved us.

FOUR THINGS TO DO WITH THOSE WHO DO NOT LIKE YOU (ENEMIES)

1. **Don’t Respond To Insults**

**Matthew 5:39 (NIV)**   
But I tell you, Do not resist an evil person. If someone strikes you on the right cheek, turn to him the other also.

**Proverbs 12:16 (NIV)**   
..but a prudent man overlooks an insult.

1. **Do More Than Is Required Of You**

**Matthew 5:40 (NIV)**   
And if someone wants to sue you and take your tunic, let him have your cloak as well.

**Luke 19:8 (NIV)**   
… and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay back four times the amount."

1. **Treat Mis-treaters With Kindness**

**Matthew 5:41 (NIV)**   
If someone forces you to go one mile, go with him two miles.

1. **Don’t Show Favorites**

**Matthew 5:42 (NIV)**   
Give to the one who asks you, and do not turn away from the one who wants to borrow from you.

**Remember, Jesus isn't commanding us to be irresponsible with our resources; he's commanding us not to be stingy, not to hold back when it is within our power to help.**

**43** *"You have heard that it was said, 'Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.'****44*** *But I tell you: Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be sons of your Father in heaven."*