

Matthew 5

43 “You have heard the law that says, ‘Love your neighbor’ and hate your enemy. 44 But I say, love your enemies! Pray for those who persecute you! 45 In that way, you will be acting as true children of your Father in heaven. For he gives his sunlight to both the evil and the good, and he sends rain on the just and the unjust alike.

46 If you love only those who love you, what reward is there for that? Even corrupt tax collectors do that much. 47 If you are kind only to your friends, how are you different from anyone else? Even pagans do that. 48 But you are to be perfect, even as your Father in heaven is perfect.

Matthew 5:43-48 (NLT)

27 “But to you who are willing to listen, I say, love your enemies! Do good to those who hate you. 28 Bless those who curse you. Pray for those who hurt you. 29 If someone slaps you on one cheek, offer the other cheek also. If someone demands your coat, offer your shirt also.

30 Give to anyone who asks; and when things are taken away from you, don't try to get them back. 31 Do to others as you would like them to do to you.

32 "If you love only those who love you, why should you get credit for that? Even sinners love those who love them! 33 And if you do good only to those who do good to you, why should you get credit?

Even sinners will lend to other sinners for a full return.

35 “Love your enemies! Do good to them. Lend to them without expecting to be repaid. Then your reward from heaven will be very great, and you will truly be acting as children of the Most High, for he is kind to those who are unthankful

**You must be compassionate, just as
your Father is compassionate.**

Luke 6:27-36 (NIV)

- **Enemy** – a person who feels hatred for, fosters harmful designs against, or engages in antagonistic activities against another.
- **Adversary** – a person, group, or force that opposes or attacks
- **Inimical** – adverse in tendency or effect; unfavorable; unfriendly; hostile

1 When Jesus had finished saying these things, he left Galilee and went down to the region of Judea east of the Jordan River. 2 Large crowds followed him there, and he healed their sick.

4 “Haven’t you read the Scriptures?”
Jesus replied. “They record that
from the beginning ‘God made them
male and female.’” 5 And he said,
“‘This explains why a man leaves his
father and mother and is joined to
his wife, and the two are united into
one.’ 6 Since they are no longer two
but one, let no one split apart what
God has joined together.”

Matthew 19:1-6 (NIV)

Since they are no longer two but one, let no one split apart what God has joined together.”

Matthew 19:6 (NIV)

But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us... For if, while we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life!

Romans 5: 8,10 (NIV)

21 From that time on Jesus began to explain to his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things at the hands of the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life.

22 Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. “Never, Lord!” he said. “This shall never happen to you!”

23 Jesus turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; you do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns.”

Matthew 16:21-23 (NIV)

Dear brothers and sisters, when troubles of any kind come your way, consider it an opportunity for great joy.

James 1:2 (NLT)