

ENEMY LOVE

Mike Howerton - Lead Pastor

For Christ himself has brought peace to us. He united Jews and Gentiles into one people when, in his own body on the cross, he broke down the wall of hostility that separated us. Together as one body, Christ reconciled both groups to God by means of his death on the cross, and our hostility toward each other was put to death. Ephesians 2:14,16 NLT

Who is _____?

“You have heard that it was said, ‘Eye for eye, and tooth for tooth.’ But I tell you, Do not resist an evil person. If someone strikes you on the right cheek, turn to him the other also. And if someone wants to sue you and take your tunic, let him have your cloak as well. If someone forces you to go one mile, go with him two miles. Give to the one who asks you, and do not turn away from the one who wants to borrow from you. “You have heard that it was said, ‘Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ But I tell you: Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be sons of your Father in heaven. He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous. Matthew 5:38-45 NIV 1984

We are to love _____

Enemy Love isn't easy _____

But I tell you: Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be sons of your Father in heaven. He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous. Matthew 5:44,45 NIV 1984

But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Romans 5:8 NKJV

**Final Question: who _____
to love?**

QUESTIONS FOR GROUPS //

- *Are you able to identify who your “enemy” is? If so, please share.*
- *What, for you, makes it difficult to love your enemies?*
- *What are the benefits of loving your enemy?*
- *Read Romans 5:8 - who does God’s love for you affect how you love others?*
- *Who is God calling you to love?*