

*Sermon-based Growth Group Questions*  
*“Sermon on the Mount: A Heart of Love”*  
*Matthew 5: 38-48*  
February 4, 2024

Introductory Discussion: What from the sermon did you find most helpful, or eye-opening, or challenging?

1. As a Christian, what should you ultimately want to happen with your enemies?
  - a. How does that change how you respond to conflict?
  
2. What is the principle behind “an eye for an eye”?
  - a. How can it be abused or misunderstood?
  
3. Matthew 5:39 essentially says not to retaliate. Why should we resist retaliating and holding grudges?
  - a. How is that an act of faith?
  - b. Why should we accept an insult and give them another opportunity?
  
4. What message does it send to someone when you are forced to do something that you go above and beyond (verse 41)?
  
5. Why should our default attitude be to give to those in need (verse 42)?
  - a. How does that change us?
  
6. Why do we feel a need to get revenge?
  - a. Who benefits?
  - b. If you love your enemy, who benefits?

7. How does loving your enemy make you a “child of your father in heaven “ (verse 45)?
  - a. What do verses 44 and 45 tell us about how God treats his “enemies?”
  
8. Verse 48 tells us to be perfect, complete, or mature. Do you get there by trying harder?
  - a. How do we pursue righteousness?