

1. What kinds of “enemies” have you faced in your life? What has been your natural response to them?
2. Read Matthew 5:38–42. How does Jesus add to his teaching from Matthew 5:38–42? What additional requirements does he make?
3. Read Matthew 5:45. How have you seen common grace evidenced in your experience? How does common grace inform us about how to treat not only our enemies, but also anyone who is far from God?
4. Read Matthew 5:46–47. In what ways are we prone to love only those who love us, or to greet only our brothers? What does Jesus imply is the result of such limited love?
5. Read Matthew 5:48. Why does Jesus use this specific language here? What about the grammar of this sentence gives us cause for hope? Where are we currently in the process of sanctification? How can we participate with God as He equips us to love without limits?
6. Read Romans 5:6–11. In v8 and v10, how does Paul say God demonstrates His love to us? Ask God for the grace to love your enemies (past, present, and future) with the same love as the Father demonstrated towards you.