

Jesus Teaches Us How to Love

Matthew 5: 13-44



Jesus went throughout Galilee healing the sick and telling people the good news about God's kingdom. Soon a large amount of people began following Jesus. He went to the top of a mountain and began teaching them about how God wanted them to show love in the world.



First, Jesus told them about how God's kingdom was an upside down kingdom.
These are called The Beatitudes. Then, he told the people that they are salt and light.

He said, "You are the light of the world. When you light a lamp in your house, do you hide the light with a bowl?"



"No!" said Jesus. "You put it on a stand so it can shine for everyone in the house. I want you to shine in the same way."

Jesus went on to explain that they could shine in a dark world.

God wanted his children to love each other. They could shine by showing their love.



Jesus said, "You have heard it said, eye for an eye and tooth for a tooth." But this is not how God wants you to treat one another.

"If someone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to him the left also. And if someone forces you to go one mile, go a second mile with them."



Forgiveness is one of the ways we can love like
Jesus. It is one of the ways we can shine in a dark world.



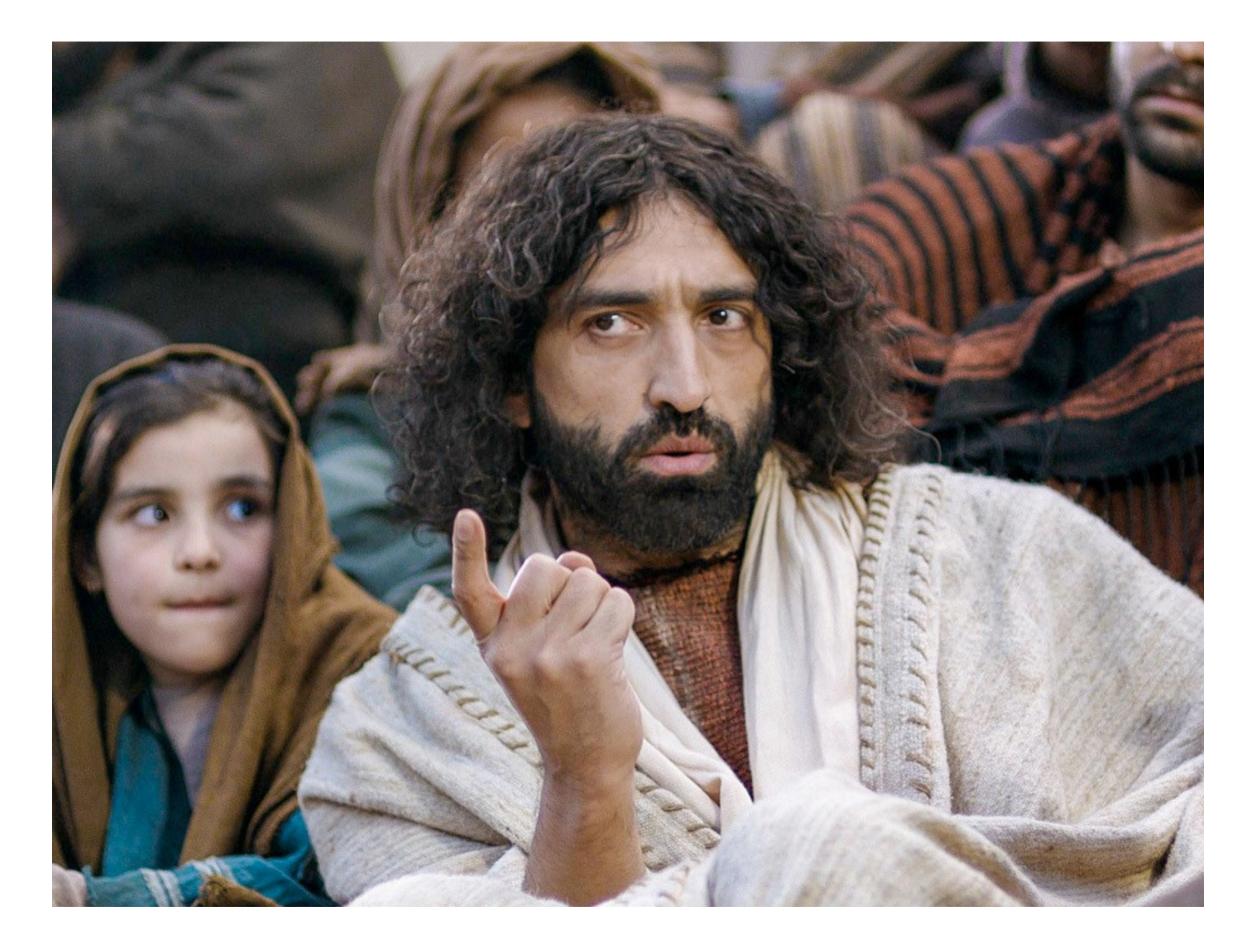
"Be generous when someone wants to borrow from you," Jesus said.

Then, Jesus said something that was so different the people couldn't believe their ears.

"Love your enemies and pray for those who are mean to you."



"You see, if you only love those who love you back, what good is that? Even the tax collectors and pagans are kind to the people who are kind to them. It isn't special at all. Even God shows kindness to the righteous and the unrighteous. Therefore, be perfect as your heavenly Father is perfect."



Jesus taught us to love our enemies. Showing love to our enemies is another way that we can shine in the dark world.



Last, Jesus told everyone that they should help the needy.

"But don't do it just to show off," Jesus said. "If you announce your good deeds on the streets and in the synagogues, then you have received your reward. Instead, do it just to honor God. Then, God will reward you."



Jesus wanted the people to love each other, to love their enemies, and to the love the poor and needy. Then, they would show love in the same way God loves them. Their lives would please God.

Let's Talk About The Story...



Where was Jesus teaching at beginning of our story?



Why is this lesson called "The Sermon on the Mount?"



Who did Jesus say we should love?



What should we do if someone slaps us on the cheek? What does that mean?



Why does God want us to love others?



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