

EVANGELISM

Simple Evangelism...



WEST SOUND COMMUNITY CHURCH

SUMMER 2020

...The Way Jesus Talked About It

Evangelism is not an us versus them strategy. In fact, it's not close to such a thing. Jesus said, *You have heard that it was said, "You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy." But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.* In Matthew 5:43-48, we find this far reaching and fantastic truth...and we might wonder why the need for him to say it. Oh, oh, oh oh oh, the need was great. You see, the first half of the first sentence came straight from the Old Testament (Leviticus 19:18), however the second half—the part about hate—did not. So where had the folks been hearing this "love your neighbor, but hate your enemy" thing? They had been hearing it their whole lives from their priestly and rabbinical teachers! Wow! Both his followers and others who heard him say this would have been thrown back on their proverbial heels. Hopefully, each of us is past their prejudice, but just in case...

1. In what context did Jesus deliver this biblical correction? Matthew 3:13 to 5:48

3:13-17	The Baptism of Jesus
4:1-11	The Temptation of Jesus
4:12-17	The Beginning of Jesus' Preaching
4:18-22	The First Followers are Called
4:23-25	The Sick are Healed
5:1-12	The Beatitudes are Taught
5:13-15	The Followers are Encouraged to be Salt and Light
5:16-20	The Fulfillment of All Previous Biblical Truth has Arrived
5:21-26	The Law Against Murder Elevated
5:27-30	The Law of Adultery Elevated
5:31,32	The Law of Divorce Elevated
5:33-37	The Law of Oaths Elevated
5:38-42	The Law of Retribution Elevated
5:43-48	The Law of Love Elevated

2. In what way was The Law of Love elevated? Matthew 5:43-48

- It was rescued from its corruption. vss. 43 and 44
- It was refreshed through new revelation. vss. 44 and 45
- It was reasserted through counter-cultural application. vss. 46-48



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