

What Are You Doing More than Others?

Chapter 16

Audio lesson: Sermon on the Mount 16



Objective: To understand what makes Christians different from everyone else. (Text: Matthew 5:43-48)



“If you love those who love you, what reward have you? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? And if you greet your brethren only, what do you do more than others? Do not even the tax collectors do so? Therefore you shall be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect.

—Matthew 5:46-48

If we follow Jesus and have His attitudes, we will be changed. We will become the salt of the earth and like lights that shine in the world. That means that we will not live the same way that others live. We will do more because we have Jesus living in our hearts. We will have a greater love than the world knows and show greater grace and mercy than the world understands. In so doing, we will become like our Father in heaven.



1. True or false? Jesus taught that His disciples must be different from the world.
2. True or false? God is satisfied if we can at least greet those who greet us.
3. True or false? As disciples, if we cannot be different from the world, we will not be very helpful to those “at the bottom of the mountain,” those who are all around us.

4. True or false? Loving someone is just another way of saying we need someone.

Unless otherwise noted, choose one best answer for each question.

5. What kind of love does Jesus have?

- a. Conditional love
- b. Unconditional love
- c. Temporary love
- d. Weak love

6. Why does God want us to be like Him? (*choose all that apply*)

- a. So we can understand who He is and love Him.
- b. So we can be part of His solution for the world.
- c. So we can force people to do what is right.
- d. That is one way we glorify Him.
- e. So we show people how much holier we are than they are.

7. Where is God's love seen in scripture?

- a. Only in the Old Testament
- b. Only in the New Testament
- c. Only before Adam and Eve sinned and after Jesus comes again
- d. Everywhere

8. What characteristics will we have if we are like God?

- a. We will love as He loves.
- b. We will have hostility toward sinners.
- c. We will understand as much as He does.
- d. We will become as powerful as He is.

9. When did God first love us?

- a. When we repented of our sins
- b. When we chose to become part of His solution
- c. He always has loved us, even while we were still sinners.
- d. He is still waiting to see if we deserve His love.



Is there anyone you find difficult to love? If so, how can God's love for you help you love that person? What kind of love does God want you to have for people? What can you do this week to show them God's love?



Thank God for His unconditional love for you. Ask Him for opportunities and the courage to show His love to other people—and especially to those who do not expect you to treat them well.



Going Deeper

1. What does it mean to be a new creation in Christ? In what ways are both he and she different? _____

2. Describe *agape* love. How is it different from the way the people of the world typically love one another? _____

3. Looking through your relationships, how many people do you love unconditionally? How and why? _____

4. In what ways can we be more like Jesus? _____

5. Is there anyone you find really difficult to love? Explain. _____

6. How can we love someone who is offensive to us? _____

7. Why are our motives both difficult to know, and yet very important in our relationships? _____
