

TAKING IT HOME

Applying this message to everyday life

1. Have you ever gained an enemy who was once a friend? How did that happen to you? What grief has this caused in your life?
2. To love, bless and pray for our enemies give us the power to conquer their hate. What are the best prayers you could pray for an enemy?
3. Sometimes, even members of our immediate family can become enemies. Many times, this happens as we stubbornly refuse to forgive one-another. How can prayer help soften hearts? Whose heart is often softened the most?
4. Why is it important to first of all have a healthy relationship with the Lord before we seek to create healthy relationships with others?

The Heart of Evangelism
#567 – Love Your Enemies
Matthew 5:43-45

GateWay Bible Church
July 30, 2017
Fred Hennes

Love Your Enemies

43 “You have heard that it was said, ‘Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ 44 But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, 45 that you may be children of your Father in heaven. He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous. Matthew 5:43-45

Understanding this Command

An enemy is one who annoys us, despises us, bully us and occasionally _____ our lives.

Peter says we are like _____

We are _____ framed together.

The friction is a _____ repeated action we receive.

There are two types of enemies: enemies of _____ and _____ enemies.

Why Love Enemies?

1. To develop _____
2. It is _____
3. It is a _____ to others

We must neutralize the _____ of our enemies.

An enemy is often those who’s _____ has turned to _____.

Cursing our enemies is like drinking _____ and waiting for our _____ to die!

It is the _____ who empowers us to love.

Getting-To-Know-Me Questions

Sharing time to get your group started

- A. When you undress at night, do you tend to put your clothes on a hanger, fold them over a chair, stuff them into a hamper, or leave them on the floor? Be honest!

- B. How do you feel about the childhood rhyme, “Sticks and stones may break my bones, but words will never hurt me.”? Why do you suppose this rhyme became so popular?

- C. Have you ever broken a bone in your body?

LIFE GROUP HOMEWORK

For the week of July 23, 2017

Quick Review

1. If Pastor Fred had to give an abbreviated version of last Sunday’s message, what two points or ideas would you tell him to include no matter what?

DIGGING DEEPER

Jot down a brief answer to the following questions

2. King David had his share of enemies. He describes the “hewing” action of his opponents in Psalm 119:67-71. Read those verses and record observations about David’s attitude.

3. The tongue is a mighty weapon of our enemies. Look up the following verses and record what they say about the tongue: Ps 52:4, 139:4, Pr 12:9, 15:4, 18:21, Jer 9:8, James 3:5-9.

4. Consider the life of Joseph as recorded in Genesis 37 to 50. How many enemies of his can you name and how did he treat them? What alternative responses do you think could be justified?