

**MESSAGE NOTES**

**10.24.21 | RAPID CITY ON A HILL, Part 4: The Hassle of Love**

**YOU HAVE HEARD IT 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, so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven. For he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust. For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? And if you greet only your brothers, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same? You therefore must be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect.”* **MATTHEW 5:43-48 ESV**

**A lot of us don't like to admit it, but culturally, we like \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ people.**

**WHO IS YOUR ENEMY?**

**ENEMY, textbook definition:** the person who's \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ you, or wants to see you fail.

* **Jesus also offers up many synonyms:** those who persecute, the evil, the unjust, the tax collectors (exploit for selfish gain), and the *ETHNOS* (“the nations”, those who only care about their own tribe).

*“Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account.”* **MATTHEW 5:11 ESV**

**WHAT DOES LOVE ENTAIL?**

1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.  **(MATTHEW 5:44)**

*“Pray then like this: ‘Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.’”*

**MATTHEW 6:9-13 ESV**

1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. **(MATTHEW 5:46-47)**
2. **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. (MATTHEW 5:44-45)**

**WHY SHOULD WE LOVE THEM?**

1. **Because \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ said so.**
2. **Because those who \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ grace, show grace.**

*“By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples.”*

**JOHN 15:8 ESV**

*“In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.”* **MATTHEW 5:16 ESV**

1. **Because your \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in heaven will be great.** 
   * We have an opportunity to make enemies into \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.