

LIVING UPSIDE DOWN

Week 5

BRBC Groups

May 12, 2024

Scripture | Matthew 5:43-48

Ice Breaker |

1. How does the concept of "clarity is kindness" resonate with you?
2. Can you think of a time when unclear communication caused an issue in your life, and how could clarity have helped resolve it?

Going Deeper |

1. Is there anything that stood out to you from Sunday's message, or do you have any questions?
2. Read Matthew 5:43-48
3. How does Jesus challenge the traditional understanding of loving your neighbour and hating your enemy in Matthew 5:43-48?
4. In what ways do you find it difficult to love your enemies or those you have conflict with?
5. How does the biblical idea of loving your enemies contrast with societal norms or cultural expectations?
6. How does understanding God's love for us as showed through Jesus's sacrifice influence our ability to love our enemies?
7. Can you share a personal example of when you chose to love someone who was difficult to love? What was the outcome?
8. In the message this week Rob said love must be close up, what does that mean? And how do we apply that?
9. How does getting to know someone on a personal level change your perspective on them, especially if they were previously considered an enemy?
10. What role does forgiveness play in the process of loving our enemies?
11. How can we differentiate between loving our enemies and enabling harmful behaviour?
12. What are some potential barriers to loving our enemies, and how can we overcome them?
13. How can the concept of loving our enemies be applied in broader social and political contexts?
14. The command to hate your enemy was not a clear teaching from scripture, but likely a teaching from the religious leaders that was added to scripture. What might be some other teachings or beliefs we have that are added onto scripture and not directly from scripture? How can we be cautious to not add to scripture mandates that God never intended for us to have?

