

LIFE GROUP QUESTIONS



REVIEW: Read **Matthew 5:38-42** Jesus message here was that a follower of Him was to overlook insults and be overly generous. Now with that thought in mind, Jesus asks His followers in verse 41 to do something radical. In that day if a Roman soldier tapped you with the tip of his spear by law you had to carry his gear one mile. And remember from Sunday there were mile markers in the Roman empire. But Jesus said if this happens, carry it two miles. Why would Jesus ask them to do this? What would it cost the person? And how could we apply this to our lives today? Be specific.

1. In this section Jesus is challenging the law of retaliation (An eye for an eye). I think we all have a pretty good ability to retaliate when wronged. Name as many truths as you can find in **Romans 12:17-21** about what to do in place of retaliating:

*Can you name a time recently where you had to practice this? Explain

2. On Sunday Pastor Jim spoke about taking things personal. First, do you tend to take things personal? Second, why do you think things become personal for you? How has this affected your personal relationships?

3. What do you think of this statement: Violence is born of weakness not strength, the strong man can love and suffer hurt. It is the weak man who thinks only of himself and hurts others.

GOING DEEPER

1. In **Matthew 5:40-42** we find a follower of Jesus is to be overly generous. Verse 40 he gives his Stuff, Verse 41 he gives his Time, and Verse 42 he gives his Money. So let's get into a bonus JEOPARDY question regarding his Stuff. Remember this is optional, but I hope you think about it. Read **Matthew 5:40** about coats...but **Exodus 22:26-27** seems to say something different. What do you think is going on here?

2. What do the following verses teach us about generosity?

I Timothy 6:17-19

Proverbs 11:24

Proverbs 19:7

Deuteronomy 15:7-8

3. Read **Luke 19:1-10**. This is the story of a tax-collector named Zaccheus who has an encounter with Jesus and is forever changed. Give me 3 truths about Zach from the story and 3 truths about Jesus in the same story.

Zach: _____

Jesus: _____

*Now for the big question: What was it that changed the heart of a stingy, money hungry man like Zach to become so generous? Explain.

TAKING IT HOME: What from Sunday or tonight do you need to put into practice to walk as a disciple of Jesus?

PRAYER REQUESTS: