

# WHAT IS A CHRISTIAN?

## WEEK SEVEN

### OPEN

1. Growing up, was there someone that you saw as your mortal enemy? Someone with whom you had a major problem and could not get along? What is that story?
2. Is there someone now in your life who is just hard to like and get along with?

### DIG

1. Read Matthew 5:38-48
  - In verse 39, Jesus talks about a slap on your right cheek. Why is it important that He mentioned right cheek? Does that make it harder to overlook?

(If people are confused, have people try slapping someone else's right cheek - does it become a backhanded slap? But let them figure it out first.)

  - Would you be eager to carry a soldier's gear for a mile if you just had someone you loved abused by a Roman? What do you do when what Jesus asks us to do gets in the way of our anger?
  - In verse 46 Jesus seems to imply there is a reward for loving your enemies. What is that reward and is it worth it?
2. What does Jesus mean by saying "be perfect" in verse 48?

### SHARE

1. Does anyone have a story of when they loved someone who was hard to love and God really did something special?
2. How about when you loved someone hard to love and it blew up in your face? How did you stay true to Christ in that situation?
3. Is there a situation that you need right now to turn over to God and ask for help in loving someone who is hard to love?



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## PRAYER

Pray that you would be able to love the person in your life that is an enemy right now.

## GO DEEPER

The Gospel Coalition has a unique article about **how** to pray for those who are your enemies  
<https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/article/3-ways-to-pray-for-our-enemies/>