LOVE YOUR ENEMIES | 4.25.21

TALK SHEET

YOU SAY YOU WANT A REVOLUTION

KEY SCRIPTURES

⁴³ "You have heard the law that says, 'Love your neighbor' and hate your enemy. ⁴⁴ But I say, love your enemies! Pray for those who persecute you!

Matthew 4:43-44

¹⁴ Bless those who persecute you. Don't curse them; pray that God will bless them.

¹⁷ Never pay back evil with more evil. Do things in such a way that everyone can see you are honorable. ¹⁸ Do all that you can to live in peace with everyone.

¹⁹ Dear friends, never take revenge. Leave that to the righteous anger of God. For the Scriptures say,

"I will take revenge;

I will pay them back,"

says the Lord.

²⁰ Instead,

"If your enemies are hungry, feed them.

If they are thirsty, give them something to drink.

In doing this, you will heap

burning coals of shame on their heads."

²¹ Don't let evil conquer you, but conquer evil by doing good.

Romans 12:14, 17-21

KEY QUOTES

"Mercy requires that we sow good seed in our enemy's field. Even if it means that part of our field will be bare."

"Prayer for your enemy isn't for them, it's for you!"

5 POINTS OF LOVING YOUR ENEMIES:

- 1. Mercy
- 2. Prayer
- 3. Stopping the Cycle of Evil
- 4. Service
- 5. Forgiveness

Select 1 or 2 questions from each section of this guide to lead your group or house church in a discussion. Feel free to adjust as needed. Each section is designed to follow each video segment of the message.

• Video Section #1: Explore the Topic

- > Start it Out | Goal: Get people talking
- Video Section #2: Explore what God says about the Topic
- > Talk it Out | Goal: Get the group talking about scripture
- Video Section #3: Explore what we do with the Topic
- > Live it Out | Goal: Choose a question to encourage next steps
- > Pray it Out | Goal: Lift of prayers, petitions, and praises

Start it Out | Goal: Get people talking

- How did you respond to Peter Home's story?
- Respond to the following quote: "Mercy requires that we sow good seed in our enemy's field. Even if it means that part of our field will be bare."
- Without sharing names, how have you loved your enemies in the past?

Talk it Out | Goal: Get the group talking about scripture

- Read **Matthew 4:43-44;** How easy or hard is it to follow this scripture? Explain.
- Jesus instructed us to first love and prayer for our enemies, why is praying for our enemies so important?
- Read **Romans 12:20**; how does this view of dealing with our enemies differ from the view of the world?
- Review the **5 POINTS OF LOVING YOUR ENEMIES:** Is there one that is easier to do than others? Discuss.

Live it Out | Goal: Choose questions to encourage next steps

- Has there ever been a time when you have offered forgiveness to an enemy? If so, how well or not well did it go?
- Are there people or a person in your life that you need to show love to who you would categorize as an "enemy?"
- What is one step you can take this week to love your enemies?

Pray it Out | Goal: Lift up prayers, petitions, and praises

• How can we pray for you this week? Take notes and follow up next week.

LOVE GOD | LOVE PEOPLE | CHANGE THE WORLD