



{INVITATIONS}
CELEBRATE.

Psalm 119:33-40; Leviticus 19:1-2, 9-18; Matthew 5:38-48; 1 Corinthians 3:10-11, 16-23

GETTING STARTED

- Have you ever felt like you were someone's enemy? What impact did it have on your life?
- Have you ever treated someone like an enemy? How did that situation turn out?

READ AND REFLECT

Read Leviticus 19:9-18 and Matthew 5:38-48

- What connection do you see between the two scripture passages?

Read Psalm 119:33-40 and 1Corinthians 3:10-11, 16-23

- List the main theme(s) in each scripture:

- Psalm 119:33-40
- 1Cor 3:10-11
- 1Cor 3:16-23

- In what ways are these passages helping us apply and understand the challenging message Jesus gives us in Matthew 5:38-48 (Love your enemy)?

Read Leviticus 19:1-2

- When you read this scripture what stands out to you and why?

- What comes to mind when you hear the word holy?

? Why do you think God wants us to be holy?

- When you read the word *perfect* in Matthew 5:48 does the word *holy* come to mind?

- What do you think God is requiring of us here?

ENGAGE AND DISCUSS

Why do you think it's so challenging for us to be generous with grace and forgiveness?

Think of the difficult people in your life, what does loving them look like?

Do you feel Christians stand out based on the way we love?

- If yes, how?
- If no, what's missing?

Discuss some practical steps we can take to live a grace filled life?

? Describe a time when keeping your eyes focused on Christ changed the way you handled a difficult situation?

NEXT STEPS

Read Matthew 5:38-48 again, while asking God to reveal to you the relationships where you need to extend grace, mercy and forgiveness. Pray for His Spirit to guide you and fill you with strength, love and wisdom.

Commit to praying Psalm 119:33-40 several times throughout the following weeks. Journal about how God is showing up in response to this prayer.

To go deeper read Matthew 18:21-35