

SERMON ON THE MOUNT

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

Session 3

Reminders:

- Spend some time getting to know each other. The relationships you build in this group are more important than getting to all of the material. Have everyone introduce and share a little about themselves.
- You do not need to have all of the answers. And you do not need to get to all the questions. The idea is to create good discussion.
- Make sure to take the time to share prayer requests and pray for each other.

Keynotes from Session 3:

- Jesus calls His followers to respond to enemies with **love instead of retaliation**.
- Loving your enemy is **active and intentional**, not passive or enabling harm.
- “Turn the other cheek,” “give your coat,” and “go the extra mile” show **strength through unexpected generosity**.
- We are called to **love and pray for those who hurt us**, reflecting God’s character.
- Christian love is measured by how we treat those who are **hard to love**, not just those who love us back.

Questions for Discussion:

- Which part of Jesus’ teaching on loving enemies feels the most difficult for you? Why?
- The sermon reframed “turn the other cheek” as restoring dignity, not accepting abuse. How does that shift your understanding?
- Who is hardest for you to love right now, and what makes it so challenging?

Read Matthew 5:38–47 (take turns reading if helpful)

- What stands out to you most in this passage?
- Jesus asks if loving only those who love us makes us any different from others. Where do you feel challenged by that question?
- What is one practical way you could love or pray for an “enemy” this week?
- Is there a response or next step you sense God inviting you to take after hearing this message?