



MESSAGE NOTES & SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE
WEEK 4 – YES, EVEN THEM

⁴³“You have heard that it was said, ‘Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ ⁴⁴But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, ⁴⁵that you may be children of your Father in heaven. He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous. ⁴⁶If you love those who love you, what reward will you get? Are not even the tax collectors doing that? ⁴⁷And if you greet only your own people, what are you doing more than others? Do not even pagans do that?

— Matthew 5:43-47 NIV

KEY QUESTION:

What does it take to serve “_____ like Jesus?

Serving like Jesus requires _____

- _____ did Jesus _____?
- _____ did Jesus _____?
- _____ did Jesus _____?

Serving like Jesus requires _____

_____ is a key for _____
_____ relationships

⁵Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; make the most of every opportunity. ⁶Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone.

— Colossians 3:5-6 NIV

Serving like Jesus requires _____ and _____ - _____
_____ with those who are _____ from us

¹³*"You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot.*

¹⁴*"You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. ¹⁶In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.*

— **Matthew 5:13-16 NIV**

⁴⁸*Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.*

— **Matthew 5:48 NIV**

Serving like Jesus requires _____ based upon

Serving like Jesus requires a _____ to _____ the
_____ **of your Heavenly Father**

DIGGING DEEPER

1. Why do we often make excuses for not serving certain people?
2. How are love and service connected?
3. What is groundbreaking about what Jesus said in Matthew 5:43-47? How does Jesus' teaching confront the excuses we make for not loving and serving others?
4. Who did Jesus love and serve?
5. What was the reason that Jesus served other people?
6. How is service connected to the need to be in proximity with the people you serve? What does this say about trying to serve from a distance?
7. How can proximity serve to build and develop transformational relationships with others?
8. What does Colossians 3:5-6 teach us about how we should engage with unbelievers?
9. How might this change your approach to interacting with unbelievers in your life?
10. How are personal beliefs and public behaviors connected?
11. What is the commitment needed to serve like Jesus?
12. What are some ways that you can build cross-shaped, transformational relationships with people in your life?