

Loving Those Who Are Hard to Love – Matthew 5:42-48 Larry Murray – August 1, 2021

<sup>43</sup> "You have heard that it was said, 'Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' <sup>44</sup> But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, <sup>45</sup> so that you may be children of your Father in heaven. For he causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous. <sup>46</sup> For if you love those who love you, what reward will you have? Don't even the tax collectors do the same? <sup>47</sup> And if you greet only your brothers and sisters, what are you doing out of the ordinary? Don't even the Gentiles do the same? <sup>48</sup> Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect." Matthew 5:43–48 (CSB)

We're most like our Heavenly Father and represent His Kingdom the best when we genuinely love others who are hard to love.

Who has God placed in your life who is hard to love?

What kind of love does Jesus require for the Kingdom of Heaven?

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How do we love others who are hard to love?	
1.	well of and to those who insult you.
2.	good to those who mistreat you.
3.	the good of those who persecute you.
4.	the goodness of God to empower you.