

## **Be Different (Part V) – Be Kind**

2/7/2010

1. In this study we consider relationships with antagonists. In previous discussions in this series, we have considered relationships with people we know (brothers & sisters in the church, spouses, and business associates). Now we turn to antagonists (jerks) who we run into without much warning. Is it easier or harder to deal with people you know versus total strangers?

2. What does 1 John 3:18 have to say about our dealings with others?

3. Pastor Steve pointed out that the audience for the Sermon on the Mount summarized in Matthew 5 was not the religious leadership. Who was it, and why is that important?

4. Read Matthew 5:38-39. What is wrong with making the punishment fit the crime? Shouldn't we treat others as they have treated us?

5. Continue reading Matt 5:40-42. Does this sound like the Messiah who is going to free the Jews from Roman rule?

6. This segment of Matt. 5 has four examples of where we are not to fight back or oppose someone who is an antagonist (a jerk) to us. What are they and can you give an example of each?

a)

b)

c)

d)

7. So people slap you and you are to turn the other cheek; people beg from you and you are to give; people sue you and you are to offer more than they ask. What are the two principles that Pastor Steve described that keep our witness during these times aimed in the proper direction so that we can be salt and light to those around us?

a)

b)

8. So how do we get there? If overcoming evil is better than resisting evil, how do we put ourselves in a position to accomplish this?

a)

b)

9. Read 1Peter 3:8-12 and consider the instructions Peter gives to the new Christians.