

The Way of the Kingdom | Kittrick Foster - 11/17/24

Turning the Other Cheek

Matthew 5:38-42

“But if there is serious injury, you are to take life for life, eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot, burn for burn, wound for wound, bruise for bruise.” Exodus 21:23-25 NIV

The Greek preposition *anti* = “In place of”, or “the thing that matches.”

The Greek word for *resist* = *anthistemi* = to stand against.

When you are being mistreated, don't [resist in kind](#).

“You have heard that it was said, ‘Eye for eye, and tooth for tooth.’ But I tell you, do not resist an evil person. If anyone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to them the other cheek also. And if anyone wants to sue you and take your shirt, hand over your coat as well. Give to the one who asks you, and do not turn away from the one who wants to borrow from you. If anyone forces you to go one mile, go with them two miles.’ Matthew 5:38-42 NIV

By “turning the other cheek,” we can make [relational change](#) and cultivate a [posture of forgiveness](#).

TALK IT OVER

Discuss these questions with someone – maybe a family member, friend, or member of your LifeGroup. Use a communication method that works best for your situation.

1. Think of a time in your life when someone else offended or hurt you. How did you want to react?
2. Read Exodus 21:23-25. This rule was actually meant to restrain retribution from going overboard. Do our culture and the law follow this rule?
3. Read Matthew 5:38-42 and Romans 12:17-21. How are we called to respond to evil? What might that look like in our lives?
4. Think of some scenarios in your life where you might be hurt or offended by someone else. How can you resist in a creative and non-retributive way?

Do: Vindication and Vengeance | 5-day YouVersion Plan

November Memory Verse: ⁴⁴*But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, Matthew 5:44*