

## Making Christmas Count

I don't really like you... but I have to hang out with you.

December 12,13, 2009

Matthew 5:43-48

Love your enemies Matthew 5:44

Who are my **enemies**

People who are out to get you

People who are **hurtful** to you

People who have different **values** or **beliefs** than you

People who have a different **personality** than you

We are supposed to **love** those people. Correction: **commanded**

Next steps toward loving our enemies

1. Sometime we will need to offer **forgiveness**  
"Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you" Ephesians 4:32
2. We have to avoid being **judgemental**  
"For in the same way you judge others, you will be judged, and with the measure you use, it will be measured to you" Matthew 7:2
3. We should ultimately be **kind** to these people.  
"Make sure that nobody pays back wrong for wrong, but always try to be kind to each other and to everyone else" 1 Thessalonians 5:15

This is something you can **fake**, but we want it to be **genuine**.

HOW????

1. Simple thing, **PRAY**.
  1. For their well being
  2. Thank God for them

Ephesians 3:8, 12-14

What are you doing to get ready for your next party?