

# LOVE: A RADICAL VIEW

## Developing Winning Character – Part 5

### September 7, 2008

Radical love is a form of love that Jesus taught by the way He lived before us.

#### 1. THREE RADICAL REQUESTS.

**Matthew 5:39-41 (NIV)** *“But I tell you, Do not resist an evil person. If someone strikes you on the right cheek, turn to him the other also.”* <sup>40</sup> *And if someone wants to sue you and take your tunic, let him have your cloak as well.”* <sup>41</sup> *If someone forces you to go one mile, go with him two miles.”*

- Move beyond \_\_\_\_\_.

**Matthew 5:39 (CEV)** *“But I tell you not to try to get even with a person who has done something to you. When someone slaps your right cheek, turn and let that person slap your other cheek.”*

**John 18:22-23 (NIV)** *“When Jesus said this, one of the officials nearby struck Him in the face. ‘Is this the way you answer the high priest?’ he demanded.”* <sup>23</sup> *‘If I said something wrong,’ Jesus replied, ‘testify as to what is wrong. But if I spoke the truth, why did you strike Me?’ ”*

- Move beyond your legal \_\_\_\_\_.

**Matthew 5:40 (CEV)** *“If someone sues you for your shirt, give up your coat as well.”*

- Move beyond what is \_\_\_\_\_ of you.

**Matthew 5:41 (CEV)** *“If a soldier forces you to carry his pack*

*one mile, carry it two miles.”*

## 2. UNDERSTANDING THESE RADICAL REQUESTS.

**Matthew 22:37-40 (NIV)** “Jesus replied: ‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’<sup>38</sup> This is the first and greatest commandment.<sup>39</sup> And the second is like it: ‘**Love your neighbor as yourself.**’<sup>40</sup> All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.”

**Matthew 5:38-39a (CEV)** “You know that **you have been taught**, ‘An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.’<sup>39</sup> But I tell **you not to try to get even** with a person who has done something to you.”

- Radical love \_\_\_\_\_ the cycle of hostility.

**Genesis 4:8 (NKJV)** “...Cain rose up against his brother Abel, and **killed him.**”

- Radical love \_\_\_\_\_ others.

**John 13:34-35 (MSG)** “Let Me give you a new command: **Love one another.** In the same way I loved you, you love one another.<sup>35</sup> This is how **everyone will recognize that you are My disciples—when they see the love you have for each other.**”

**Matthew 27:54 (NIV)** “When **the centurion** and those with him who were guarding Jesus saw the earthquake and all that had happened, they were terrified, and exclaimed, ‘**Surely He was the Son of God!**’ ”

- Radical love \_\_\_\_\_ God.

**Matthew 5:43-45a (CEV)** “You have heard people say, ‘Love your neighbors and hate your enemies.’<sup>44</sup> But I tell you **to love your enemies and pray for anyone who mistreats you.**<sup>45</sup>

*Then you will be **acting like your Father in heaven...***