Study Continued

- 7. Read 1 John 4:4. There is a spiritual battle for the hearts and minds of people. But God has given us the power to live the way He has called us to live. It is by His power and presence in our lives that we are able to love our enemies. One of the primary steps to fulfill this command is to forgive whatever grievances we have. Read Colossians 3:13. Are there any steps that you need to take in your life to be able to "love your enemies?"
- 8. Verse 48 says Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect. What does this mean? How do we live like this? How do we have a heart that is given completely to Christ? (Also read 2 Corinthians 7:1)

Donald A. Carson - Professor of New Testament at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, and President and co-founder of the Gospel Coalition

People do not drift toward holiness. Apart from grace-driven effort, people do not gravitate toward godliness, prayer, obedience to Scripture, faith, and delight in the Lord.

We drift toward compromise and call it tolerance;

We drift toward disobedience and call it freedom;

We drift toward superstition and call it faith;

We cherish the indiscipline of lost self-control and call it relaxation;

We slouch toward prayerlessness and delude ourselves into thinking we have escaped legalism;

We slide toward godlessness and convince ourselves we have been liberated.









Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

Matthew 5:48

Called to Be Holy Isaiah 6:1-8

Refiners fire 1 Peter 1:3-9

Sanctified through and through 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24

Shine Like Stars Philippians 2:12-16

Be Perfect Matthew 5:43-48

Sanctified and sent John 17:13-17

Be Holy because Jesus is coming back 2 Peter 3:1-13

Be Perfect - Matthew 5:43-48
C. S. Lewis: How little do people know, who think that holiness is dull. When one meets real thing, it is THE WAY OF THE WORLD
v.43 You have heard that it was said
_eviticus 19:18
THE WAY OF GOD v.44 But I tell you your enemies and for those who persecute you. Love:
Who are my enemies?
v.45 That you may be of your Father in heaven
2. See people through
v.45 He causes his sun to rise on the and the and sends rain on the and the
2 Cor 5:16
3. Realise that is He who is in you than he who is in the world (v.46-47) John 4:4
We have been called to be
To be holy means to be

4. Choose to love _____ in the same way that God loves _____

v.48 Be _____ therefore, as your heavenly Father is _____

1. Read Matthew 5:43-48. When Jesus said this to those listening to what we know as the, 'Sermon on the mount,' what do you think was the reaction amongst the people?

2. In verse 43, Jesus quotes from some of the teachers of the law, who took God's command to love your neighbour (Leviticus 19:18), and presumed the opposite to also be true. Why is it that the natural tendency of mankind is downward, and not upward, towards holiness? (Also read D.A.Carson's statement on the back cover)

3. Jesus then says, "But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you." What does it mean to love your enemies?

Who are our 'enemies'?

- 4. We can't accomplish this in our own strength. Pastor Peter gave four steps that need to happen for us to be able to live this way. What are they? Why is each of these necessary for us to be able to love this way?
- 5. Verse 45 says that God doesn't discriminate against anyone. If we are going to love people the way God does, then we must see people the way God does. What enables us to do this?

If we struggle to see people like that, especially someone who has hurt us in some way, what should we do? (Also read 2 Cor 5:16 & Eph 4:22-24)

6. Verses 46-47 point out that we care called to be different from the world. What is it that makes us different? (Also read Romans 12:2)

Perfect: