

God, I lift \_\_\_\_\_ up to You today and ask that You help me to see them like You see them. I pray that \_\_\_\_\_ would come to know you personally. God give me the words and opportunity to share how to begin a relationship with You. In Jesus name I pray, amen!

## Gospel Discussion

### "The Conversation with Enemies"



#### Highlight Scripture

**Matthew 5:44**

"But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you."



#### Explain (Give context)

Who would you say your enemies are? (Allow students to respond). This can bring up different kinds of feelings, from betrayal to gossip. As we think of **who** these people are, start praying that God will give you a heart to love them.

Let's read what Jesus says we should do with our enemies in Matthew chapter 5 verses 43 and 44. "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' BUT I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you," Why should we pray for our enemies? Because Jesus did. He prayed for those who opposed Him, for those who betrayed Him, and as He was hung on the cross, He asked God to forgive them. Jesus modeled how we should pray for our enemies and commanded us to do the same. Our hearts should desire for our enemies to have a relationship with Jesus and their presence in Heaven. So we pray like the apostle Paul did in Romans chapter 10 verse 1, "Brothers, my heart's desire and prayer to God for them is that they may be saved."

Today our Help Tool will be something as simple as a card to remind us to take 5 and pray for 5.



#### Apply

(See "Take 5" card for details).

Think of 5 people you would consider your enemy and commit to take 5 minutes a day and pray for their salvation and for God to give you an opportunity to share Jesus with them.



#### Respond (Individually)

Take a few minutes and begin praying for your Take 5.

Here is a sample prayer:

God, I lift \_\_\_\_\_ up to You today and ask that You help me to see them like You see them. I pray that \_\_\_\_\_ would come to know you personally. God give me the words and the opportunity to share how to begin a relationship with You. In Jesus name I pray, amen!



#### Bottom Line

Take five to pray for five.



#### Disciple Tip

Practicing the way of Jesus includes loving our enemies the way Jesus loved His.



# PRAY for 5

God, I lift \_\_\_\_\_ up to You today and ask that You help me to see them like You see them. I pray that \_\_\_\_\_ would come to know you personally. God give me the words and opportunity to share how to begin a relationship with You. In Jesus name I pray, amen!

# TAKE 5

Take 5 minutes a day

List your 5 below:

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_

# PRAY for 5