

PRAYING FOR YOUR ENEMIES BIBLE STUDY

For my visual learners:

- Pray For Your Enemies with the Perry's (searchable on YouTube)
- "Conflict in Relationships Is Unavoidable" Jesus Offers Wisdom for Seeki...
 (searchable on YouTube)

Did Jesus tell us to pray for our enemies?

Open up the Bible or YouVersion Bible app (A physical Bible is better for studies) & take a piece of paper and write your answers down (it's so powerful when you write it down, your heart truly changes with this study!)

Let's go to the Key verses:

- Matthew 5:44 "But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you."
- Luke 6:27-28 "But to you who are listening I say: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you."
- Romans 12:14 "Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse."
- **Proverbs 25:21-22** "If your enemy is hungry, give him food to eat; if he is thirsty, give him water to drink. In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head, and the Lord will reward you."

Solution to Unforgiveness: Praying for enemies not only invites God's love and mercy into our relationships but also helps us grow in compassion, humility, and forgiveness.

Discussion Questions

- 1. Why do you think Jesus calls us to pray for our enemies? How does this challenge our natural inclinations?
- 2. How has holding onto resentment or anger toward someone impacted you? How might praying for them change that?
- 3. Can you think of a situation where you experienced growth after praying for someone who hurt you? What changed?
- 4. How does praying for enemies reflect God's character? In what ways did Jesus model this during His time on earth?
- 5. How can praying for others' well-being lead to personal peace? Do you think it makes it easier to forgive? Why or why not?
- 6. **In Proverbs 25:21-22**, how is "heaping burning coals" on an enemy's head a form of kindness? What might this symbolize?
- 7. What emotions come up when you consider praying for someone who has wronged you? How can you work through those feelings with God?
- 8. **In Romans 12:14,** Paul urges believers to bless and not curse their persecutors. What does "blessing" look like in this context? How can we practically apply this?

Applying it to your life

- 1. **Identify Someone to Pray For** Think of someone you may consider an "enemy" or someone who has hurt you. Begin by simply praying for God to work in their heart.
- 2. **Pray for Your Own Heart** Ask God to help you see this person through His eyes and to heal any bitterness or anger you may carry.
- 3. **Bless in Action** Look for a way to bless this person, even if it's in a small way a kind word, a note, or even continued prayer.
- 4. **Reflect on Growth** As you pray over time, note any changes in how you feel or in the situation itself.

Prayer Declaration:

Heavenly Father, I pray right now in the mighty name of Jesus for a heart of humility. Humility is where you can work within my heart to help me pray for people that have hurt me. Even if they knew better or didn't it doesn't matter, but Jesus went through worse. Who am I to put my problems higher? Forgive me Father for having a hardened heart and I pray right now for [Say the person(s) name who hurt you] I bless them in the name of Jesus. I pray you prosper them and give them the desires of their heart. Let

[the person's name] be closer to you Lord. I pray I consistently pray for this person and don't go back to being upset or feel wronged. Holy Spirit lead me in the way everlasting! In Jesus name I pray, Amen!

Call to salvation:

Will you accept Jesus as your Lord and Savior today? Or have you known Jesus before and slipped away? He is calling you back! He died for you and me and wiped the slate clean of our sin. We have a second chance. If you want to accept Jesus as your Lord and Savior or recommit your life to him, say this prayer out loud right now:

Heavenly Father, I recognize that I am a sinner and that my sin separates me from you. I repent of all my sins and confess Jesus as my Lord and my Savior. I believe with all my heart that God the Father raised Jesus from the dead. Lord Jesus, come into my heart and come into my life. The day I die, when I open my eyes, I will be in your arms. Amen!

Did you give your life to Jesus today? We want to hear from you! **Text saved to (954) 998-4054** one of the TBG members would like to pray for you and connect you with a community of believers.