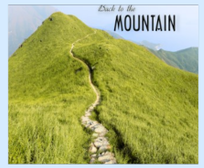
Pastor Joe Martin

"Dealing with Difficult People"



1. REMEMBER, GOD IS GRACIOUS - DON'T REACT

Mat 5:38-39"You have heard that it was said, 'AN EYE FOR AN EYE, AND A TOOTH FOR A TOOTH.' **39 "**But I say to you, do not resist an evil person; but whoever slaps you on your right cheek, turn the other to him also.

1 Pe 3:9 not returning evil for evil or insult for insult, but giving a blessing instead; for you were called for the very purpose that you might inherit a blessing.

Eph 4:29 Let no unwholesome word proceed from your mouth, but only such a word as is good for edification according to the need of the moment, so that it will give grace to those who hear.

Mat 5:40-41 "If anyone wants to sue you and take your shirt, let him have your coat also. **41** "Whoever forces you to go one mile, go with him two.

2. REMEMBER, PEOPLE ARE PEOPLE - DON'T GIVE UP ON LOVE

Mat 5:43-45 "You have heard that it was said, 'YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR and hate your enemy.' **44** "But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, **45** so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven; for He causes His sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous.

Mat 5:9 "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God

Mat 5:46-47 "For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? **47** "If you greet only your brothers, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same?

3. PUSH BACK THE WALL - DON'T WITHDRAW

Mat 5:44 "But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.

Mat 5:48 "Therefore you are to be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

Next Steps…

- ◊ **I need Jesus Christ to change my heart from resentment and fear to love and courage.**
- ◊ **Pray I will forgive and only speak grace.**
- ◊ **Pray I will see all others as objects of Gods love and redeemable.**
- ◊ **Pray I will push back the love wall by loving difficult people.**
- ◊ **I want to help with VBS.**