

Love Is...

TURNING TO GOD

When love is too hard on my own

We need God's help to live God's way.

The people I have a problem with have one thing in common: ME

The fact that I have relational conflict is confusing, because I think I am a reasonable, loving, and decent person.

The way of God, although admirable, seems unreasonable.

Matthew 5:38-41 [Jesus said,] "You have heard that it was said, 'Eye for eye, and tooth for tooth.'"³⁹ But I tell you, Do not resist an evil person. If someone strikes you on the right cheek, turn to him the other also.⁴⁰ And if someone wants to sue you and take your tunic, let him have your cloak as well.⁴¹ If someone forces you to go one mile, go with him two miles. NIV84

Matthew 5:43-45a [Jesus said,] "You have heard that it was said, 'Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.'"⁴⁴ But I tell you: Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you,⁴⁵ that you may be sons of your Father in heaven. NIV84

1 Corinthians 6:7 The very fact that you have lawsuits among you means you have been completely defeated already. Why not rather be wronged? Why not rather be cheated? NIV84

1 Peter 2:20b-23 But if you suffer for doing good and you endure it, this is commendable before God.²¹ To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps...²³ When they hurled their insults at him, he did not retaliate; when he suffered, he made no threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly. NIV84

If I keep trying to love people my way, using my standards, I'll keep getting my results.

To see dramatic change in my relationships, I'm going to have to do things God's way. Since His way seems foreign to me and beyond reasonable, I'm going to need supernatural help!

I should pray that God changes me.

I should look for ways that I can change.