

## Love your enemies

1) Watch this video ('for the birds'): <https://youtu.be/nYTrlcn4rig->

- What did the birds think of the big bird?
- How did they show what they felt?
- What did they realise too late?
- Have you ever known anyone who doesn't fit in and is picked on by others?
- How did they feel about what happened to them?

2) Read the following passages:

Psalm 139: 23-24

*"God, examine me and know my heart. Test me and know my nervous thoughts. See if there is any bad thing in me. Lead me on the road to everlasting life."*

Questions:

- How can God examine our hearts?
- What sort of things is He looking for?
- What sort of nervous thoughts might we have?
- What sort of 'bad things' might we have in our lives?
- What do you think God will do about them?

Read Luke 6:27-36- The Message version.

*"To you who are ready for the truth, I say this: Love your enemies. Let them bring out the best in you, not the worst. When someone gives you a hard time, respond with the energies of prayer for that person. If someone slaps you in the face, stand there and take it. If someone grabs your shirt, giftwrap your best coat and make a present of it. If someone takes unfair advantage of you, use the occasion to practice the servant life. No more tit-for-tat stuff. Live generously. Here is a simple rule of thumb for behaviour: Ask yourself what you want people to do for you; then grab the initiative and do it for them! If you only love the lovable, do you expect a pat on the back? Run-of-the-mill sinners do that. If you only help those who help you, do you expect a medal? Garden-variety sinners do that. If you only give for what you hope to get out of it, do you think that's charity? The stingiest of pawnbrokers does that. I tell you, love your enemies. Help and give without expecting a return. You'll never—I promise—regret it. Live out this God-created identity the way our Father lives toward us, generously and graciously, even when we're at our worst. Our Father is kind; you be kind."*

- How does God want us to treat our enemies?
- What happens when we love them?
- Who are our enemies?
- Can you think of any enemies that you have?
- How can we act as if we love our enemies?
- Can we learn to love people who we dislike?

3) Try this quiz about loving your enemies-

<https://www.proprofs.com/quiz-school/quizshow.php?title=loving-your-enemies&q=1>

4) Work out this code activity about loving your enemies ☺- You will need to print it off though.

# Love Your Enemies

"You have heard that it was said, 'Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' But I tell you: Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you." Matthew 5:43-44

Each number represents a letter of the alphabet. Substitute the correct letter for the numbers to reveal the coded words.



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
O	Q	W	H	A	U	D	K	F	Z	J	P	S	Y	I	V	R	B	E	M	N	L	C	X	T	G

1. 12-17-5-14 \_\_\_\_\_
2. 22-1-16-19 \_\_\_\_\_
3. 19-16-15-22 \_\_\_\_\_
4. 9-17-15-19-21-7-13 \_\_\_\_\_
5. 17-19-3-5-17-7 \_\_\_\_\_
6. 26-1-1-7 \_\_\_\_\_
7. 4-5-25-19 \_\_\_\_\_
8. 19-21-19-20-14 \_\_\_\_\_

ENEMY	GOOD	EVIL	LOVE
REWARD	FRIENDS	PRAY	HATE

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5) Finally -watch this to end: <https://youtu.be/rHgDSC6ODOE->