

These questions are provided for your further study and application of the message. Thoughtfully writing out the answers to these questions will help to drive home the point. It is also helpful to discuss your answers with others.

Discussion Questions

Date: February 16, 2020

Mark 14:12-21

1. Read Mark 14:17-21. What actions of Jesus stand out the most to you in this passage? What actions of the disciples stand out most to you in this passage?
2. Why is an atheistic or naturalistic worldview hostile to loving one's enemies?
3. Love is hard. Even loving loveable people is hard, but loving your enemies is even harder. Can you name a time when someone loved you when you knew you didn't deserve it? How did it make you feel about that person? How did it make you feel about yourself?
4. A few weeks ago, Pastor Craig preached on loving your neighbor from Matthew 22:34-40. Why must we love our neighbors—and others who are close to us—if we ever hope to be able to love our enemies?
5. Read Matthew 5:43-48. What does Jesus command us to do for our enemies? How is loving our enemies not the same thing as agreeing with or condoning their sin?
6. Love when it hurts. The reality about love is that when you open yourself up to being loved, you also open yourself up to getting hurt, and that can be hard. Who in your life do you need to make a special effort to love today?
7. Family verse: Read and memorize Matthew 5:44. Discuss how this passage would have a different meaning to us here in the United States than it would to persecuted believers in China.