



Jesus with Skin On

Be Willing to Be Wronged or Taken Advantage of

³⁸You have heard it said, 'Eye for eye, and tooth for tooth.' ³⁹But I tell you, 'Do not resist an evil person. If someone strikes you on the right cheek, turn to him the other also. ⁴⁰And if someone wants to sue you and take your tunic, let him have your cloak as well.'" Matthew 5:38-40



Engage

How do you typically respond when you feel as though you have been taken advantage of?



Encounter

In the parable, who was at risk of being taken advantage of?

Why do you think the Samaritan didn't consider whether or not he would be taken advantage of as he took care of the injured traveler?

If he were concerned with being taken advantage of, might he have responded differently?

How does being willing to be wronged or taken advantage of show our love for God and our love for people?

Where in Scripture including Matthew 5:38-40, do we learn how to live in ways that may result in us being wronged or taken advantage of for the benefit of others?



Express

When it comes to meeting the needs of others, how willing are you to help despite their motives or the possibility of being taken advantage of?

How would your heart be different if you were willing to take a loss for the benefit of someone else and the cause of Christ?

What can you do to be open to being taken advantage of?

Prayer: Spend an extended time in prayer asking for God to help you allow yourself to be taken advantage of if it is for his ultimate glory and that people may see a glimpse of who Jesus is through you.

²⁵On one occasion an expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he asked, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?"

²⁶"What is written in the Law?" he replied. "How do you read it?"

²⁷He answered: " 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind'; and, 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'" ²⁸"You have answered correctly," Jesus replied. "Do this and you will live."

²⁹But he wanted to justify himself, so he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?"

³⁰In reply Jesus said: "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, when he fell into the hands of robbers. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him and went away, leaving him half dead. ³¹A priest happened to be going down the same road, and when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. ³²So too, a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. ³³But a Samaritan, as he traveled, came where the man was; and when he saw him, he took pity on him. ³⁴He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he put the man on his own donkey, took him to an inn and took care of him. ³⁵The next day he took out two silver coins and gave them to the innkeeper. 'Look after him,' he said, 'and when I return, I will reimburse you for any extra expense you may have.'

³⁶"Which of these three do you think was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?" ³⁷The expert in the law replied, "The one who had mercy on him." Jesus told him, "Go and do likewise." Luke 10:25-37