

Digging Deeper for the week of May 9, 2010

*Based on Kerry Jech's sermon; "I am Responsible: For My Intimacy with the Almighty"*

Have you heard of the Hatfield and McCoy feud? You can read about it here:

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hatfield-McCoy\\_feud](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hatfield-McCoy_feud)

To make a long story short, these families fought and killed each other for over 10 years, over a dozen members of both families died during this feud.



## MOM and/or DAD DISCUSSION QUESTION

"Take a moment and think of someone you don't like. Why don't you like them?"

*Take a moment and ask each person in your family to respond and then follow up with this question.*



*Bible Time!*

**Read [Leviticus 19:18](#)...then read [Matthew 5:44-47](#)...For an online Bible: [www.biblegateway.com](http://www.biblegateway.com)**

*Here's the deal. Our relationship with Jesus Christ should totally change the way we live. Our goals should not be the same as those of the world. Our reactions to the situations of life should differ from those of the world. The world says, "love those who love you." "Scratch the back of those who scratch your back." "Do favors for those who help you." But, Jesus says, "Don't just love your friends, love your enemies." "Don't just do good to those who do good to you, but do good to those who don't like you." Jesus asks, "If you love only those people who love you, what reward will you receive from God for that? Even tax-collectors will do that!" The fact is, Jesus Christ gave his life to us long before we ever committed our lives to him. Jesus Christ died for us while we were still enemies of his (Romans 5:8). Peter writes, "do not repay evil with evil, or an insult with an insult, but repay evil with a blessing..." (1 Peter 3:9). Why? Because that is what Jesus did, and that's what Jesus expects us to do.*



## MOM and/or DAD DISCUSSION QUESTION

"In what ways do we tend to act more like the Hatfields and the McCoys towards each other?"

"How should our family change if we really adopted Jesus' words?"



**If you have access to the internet:**

<http://video.google.com/videoplay?docid=6542243146253721127#>

### **Follow up with this thought.**

Peter asked Jesus, "How many times must I forgive my brother? Is seven times enough?" And Jesus answers Peter by saying, "No, not seven times, but seventy times seven times" (Matt. 18:21-23,35). In other words, forgiveness doesn't keep track. What if God said, "Listen, I will forgive you seventy times seven times. I'll forgive you 490 times, but when you hit 491 times you have sinned and are in need of forgiveness, I'm drawing the line!" Does God keep track of the number of times He's forgiven us? Jesus said, "if you forgive men when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive men when they sin against you, your Father will not forgive you" (Matthew 6:14&15). "Do you want to move mountains?" Jesus asked. "Then have faith in God, *and* if you hold any grudge against anyone else, forgive that person" (Mark 11:22-25). You see, if we harbor unforgiveness in our hearts, our prayers don't get through to God (Psalm 66:18; 1 Peter 3:7).



**If you have access to the internet:**

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FG9NdKe5JE>

then go to [www.mossyfoot.com](http://www.mossyfoot.com) and watch the intro. DON'T SKIP THE INTRO

*What have we sacrificed lately for the cause of Jesus Christ? The great statesman, Daniel Webster, once said, "The greatest thought that has ever entered my mind is that one day I will have to stand before a holy God and give an account of my life." We have conditioned ourselves in America to hear sermons without doing anything in response. For some reason, we have convinced ourselves that if we are simply convicted, that is sufficient. We hear something and think to ourselves, "I need to remember that," but then do nothing. James warned us, "Do not merely listen to the Word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says" (1:22), for, "anyone who knows the good he ought to do and doesn't do it, sins" (4:17).*



### MOM and/or DAD DISCUSSION QUESTION

"As a family are we making sacrifices for the work of Jesus in our community and in the world?  
Why or why not?"



### **PRAYER TIME**

*Close your discussion with a prayer, asking Jesus to help you through His Word and the Holy Spirit to be like Jesus to others. What ministry or act of kindness is he laying on your heart for His sake? What sacrifice is He calling you to make for His glory?*

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