

BIG IDEA

If we can learn to hate, we can learn to love...again.

WHAT DOES GOD WANT ME TO KNOW?

How would you define the word “incivility”? What is the difference between hatred and incivility?

Read Luke 9:51-56. What justifications might the disciples have had for their attitude toward the Samaritan village?

Read Matthew 5:38-48. Based on your understanding of this passage, why might Jesus have rebuked his disciples?

What do you think Jesus’ response would be to our justifications for wishing pain and violence on those we see as enemies?

WHAT IS MY INITIAL REACTION?

Where do you feel the impact of hatred in your life?

Why do you think it is so difficult to see hatred in ourselves, but easy to identify it in others?

Read 1 Peter 2:17. Do you show proper respect to *everyone*, or only those who think and believe the way you do? How do you know?

WHAT AM I GOING TO DO?

Read John 13:34-35. If you could never tell people that you followed Jesus, would they know you follow him based on the way you treat others? The way you speak about others?

Make a list of people, or people groups, that you have a hard time respecting based on their actions, beliefs, or lifestyles. How is God calling you to show them respect?

Do you need to ask God for forgiveness for harboring hatred in your heart? Do you need to ask anyone in your life for forgiveness for dealing with them in an uncivil manner?

How could God use you to be a person of unity?

