MONDAY MORNING KICKOFF

April 25, 2011

When Someone Mistreats You

We have all been mistreated at some point in our lives. It could be by a friend, a family member, at work, and unfortunately it even happens at church sometimes. The question that each of us must ask ourselves, and answer biblically, is how do I respond when I have been mistreated.

The scripture for both the offense and defense is Matthew 5:38-48

OFFENSE:

ÅRepay evil/mistreatment with good ï vs. 40-42

ÅDEFENSE:

ÅLove and pray for those who mistreat you ï vs. 44

ÅHUDDLE NOTES:

ÅWe are to love each other with *agape* love. *Agape* is the love that God loves you with. It is an unconditional and unearned love. Vines Complete Expository Dictionary says, ñChristian love has God for its primary object, and expresses itself in obedience to His commandmentsé Christian love, whether exercised toward the brethren, or toward men generally, is not an impulse from the feelings, it does not always run with the natural inclinations, nor does it spend itself only upon those for whom affinity is discovered. Love seeks the welfare of all and works no ill to anyé ò

ÅPhilippians 2:4-5 says, ñLet each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others. Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesusé ò

ÅIn John 18:19-24 it tells us that Jesus was slapped. Note that He did not retaliate, He remained calm and spoke truth.

ÅMen, for us to fulfill what God created us for, and for us to touch other souls for the Kingdom of God, we must learn to walk in godly love, *agape* love, even when we are mistreated. **The world says get revenge, God says bless those who curse you.**

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____