



## GET TO THE HEART OF THE MATTER ON RETALIATION

Series: Apprentice II-Life On The Rock  
Presenter: Jim Hammond  
Texts: Matthew 5:20, 38-48

**FOCUS:** There is never a good reason to be unkind.

### The Kingdom Heart...

1. *Doesn't* \_\_\_\_\_
  
2. *Goes* \_\_\_\_\_ *And* \_\_\_\_\_
  
3. *Is Surprisingly* \_\_\_\_\_
  
4. *Is* \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

My Next Step:

Today's message and many more are available online at [www.vvchristianchurch.net](http://www.vvchristianchurch.net).

If you would like a CD or DVD of today's message, write your request on the back of your attendance card, and place it in the offering plate. Your CD or DVD will be at the Connection Central desk in the Connection Hallway next Sunday. We suggest a \$2 donation per DVD and a \$1 donation per CD.

## SOUL TRAINING EXERCISES: WEEK 5

**GOING DEEPER OPTIONAL READING:** Read chapter 7 of *The Good and Beautiful Life*, by James Bryan Smith (available for purchase in the hallway).

### Soul Training Exercises:

- Pray for the success of your competitor. Maybe you don't feel love toward them and you don't yet want them to succeed, but perhaps you could will their good anyway, and pray for them. This trains your soul to see people the way God does.
  
- Bless a "cold and prickly" person.

### With a friend or group:

- How does the "Golden Rule" (Matthew 7:12) address this topic? What if you don't "feel like it"?
  
- Read Matthew 5:20, 38-48. What spiritual resources are necessary for someone to be able to respond in such an extraordinary way toward people who have hurt and wronged him or her?
  
- What do you think of the saying of famous basketball coach John Wooden, "Consider the rights of others before your own feelings, and the feelings of others before your own rights"?
  
- Is 5:42 a command to be legalistically obeyed or another illustration of what the surprisingly generous kingdom heart looks like?