

Reformation Sunday The Testimony of Ms. Tauchi Chizuko

Matthew 5:43-48 October 31, 2021 Pastor Casey Ehlers

Introduction

On Reformation Sunday we celebrate the church's testimony and reflect on a key theme: *Love of Enemy*

The Text: Matthew 5:43-48

⁴³ "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' ⁴⁴ But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, ⁴⁵ so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven. For he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust. ⁴⁶ For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? ⁴⁷ And if you greet only your brothers, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same? 48 You therefore must be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

	The story of Tauchi Chizuko reminds the Christian that our lives should be marked by a love for our enemies.		
1.	A Brief History of Korea-Japan Relations		
2.	The Testimony of Tauchi Chizuko		
3.	Matthew 5:43-48 is not an optional text! Christian love should extend to those who are our enemies. a. Who does the culture say our enemies are as Christians?		

b. Who do our hearts tell us are our enemies?

Response

Christ loved us while we were still His enemy. Pray for the Holy Spirit's guidance in becoming a Christian who *follows this example!*

Small Group Questions Matthew 5:43-48

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1)	Starter Question: Tell a story of someone who loved well. What can you learn from their example?	
2)	What stood out to you the most about the life and ministry of Tauchi Chizuko?	
3)	How does Tauchi Chizuko's testimony challenge the values and aspirations of our world today?	
4)	Read Matthew 5:43-48 together. Discuss any questions or observations you have about the text.	
5)	Summarize, in a simple statement, Jesus's teaching from the text.	
6)	How does Matthew 5:43-48 challenge the world we live in today? How does our culture expect enemies to be treated?	
7)	What are some ways Christians can faithfully live out Matthew 5:43-48? What about verse 48?	
8)	Who does the broader culture assume are the enemies of the church today? Who actually persecutes us?	
9)	Who do you struggle with loving like Christ loves you? Are there groups (ethnic, political, social, generational, etc.) of people that would be considered your enemies if you were honest?	
10)	What is a 'next step' application for you and the Gospel challenge of loving your enemies well?	
Further study this week: Romans 5:1-11 (Mon); Jesus' Example: Matthew 26:1-29 (Tues); Matthew 26:30-56 (Wed); Matthew 26: 57 – Matthew 27:10 (Thurs); Matthew 27:11-66 (Fri).		