

H A T R E D

DAY ONE

STEP #1: THE SEARCH

Hating Evil

Read Psalms 97:10; Hebrews 1:8-9; Amos 5:15; John 3:20 and search for what the man of God should “hate”.

STEP #2: THE APPLICATION

Discussion:

- [1] From the verses find at least three reasons why we should hate evil?
- [2] In this context consider Matthew 6:24, and consider what the consequence of not hating evil.
- [3] Can Evil ever appear “attractive”?

Consider the following: Pr 23:17 ¶ Let not thine heart envy sinners: but be thou in the fear of the LORD all the day long.

- [1] How can we guard ourselves against envying sinners?
- [2] What does it mean to have the “fear of the Lord” (Proverbs 16:6; 15:33; 15:16; 14:27)
- [3] How can we gain a “fear of the Lord” (Proverbs 8:13-14; Psalms 34:11-18)
- [4] If we envy sinners, are we in danger?
- [5] Can a person depart from the “fear of the Lord”? (Hebrews 3:12; Daniel 9:5; Psalms 36:1)

STEP #3: THE PRAYER

End your session with prayer, asking God to give us the wisdom to love Him and His ways with all of our minds — placing value in His ways, and perceiving that His ways bring life.

DAY TWO

STEP #1: THE SEARCH

Hating Others

Read Galatians 5:19-25 and search for: hatred, the consequences, and what types of sins it is grouped with.

STEP #2: THE APPLICATION

Discuss this passage and answer:

- [1] Is hatred less harmful than adultery or witchcraft?
- [2] What is the fruit of hatred as listed in this passage?
- [3] Can we walk with God and harbor hatred against our brethren? (1 John 2:9-11)
- [4] Read 1 John 3:15 and discuss why hatred and murder are linked.
- [5] Read Proverbs 10:12, and discuss what the fruit of hatred is.

Read Matthew 5:44, and search for ways we can prevent the natural tendency of man to hate others — especially that who hate us. Find at least three things we can do.

- [1] How can we possibly “love” those who “hate” us?
- [2] Do our attitudes determine our actions, or do our actions determine our attitudes?
- [3] Can we “feel” emotion and not act on it. (Eph. 4:26)

STEP #3: THE PRAYER

End your session with prayer, asking God to help us always to desire his ways, denying ourselves and seeking to serve Him.

DAY THREE

STEP #1: THE SEARCH

Acting in a hateful manner

Read Zechariah 8:17 and consider the effects of “imagining” evil thoughts.

STEP #2: THE APPLICATION

When someone is mistreated, it is a common thing to begin “imagining” evil things happening to the one who mistreated. It is often justified under the thought that it would be what they “deserved” and “justice” would be served.

Separately, make a list of ways in which “hatred” can begin. Together, compare your lists, and discuss how we can break the progression from: anger, to “imagining” evil thoughts, to hatred, to strife, etc.

- [1] Anger: Eph. 4:26 — how do we deal with it?
- [2] Imagining Evil: Zechariah 8:17— how do we prevent our minds from dwelling on the event and imagining evil?
- [3] Hatred: 1 John 4:20 — if it has gone this far, we have a choice to make — no man can serve two masters, one choice leads to life, and the other to destruction. Before going down the road, consider where the path leads
 - ⇒ Read Titus 3:3 and consider the things that are associated with a hateful attitude
 - ⇒ Read Proverbs 10:12 and consider the things that are associated with hatred
 - ⇒ If we hate the end result, should it cause us to hate the path that leads us there?

STEP #3: THE PRAYER

End your session with prayer, asking God to help us to serve Him with all our souls, submitting to his direction in our lives — to love the things that He loves, and to value the things that He values, being mindful of the things of God.