

**Holiness: Perfected in Love**  
Matthew 5:43-48 (v. 48)

**1. What is “Perfect” Love?**

Key Word *teleos*: complete, full, something that has reached its goal, mature  
We are called not to be **as perfect** as our heavenly Father but perfect **like** our heavenly Father.  
Perfection = aligning ourselves with God’s purpose of love

**2. Holiness as Love**

Mark 12:29-30  
Holiness = When love becomes the greatest goal of this life.  
To love God, we must love our brother and sister.  
Holiness is love excluding sin, circumcision of the heart, infilling of love.  
Hebrews 6:1-3  
Philippians 3:13-14  
Source = “in Christ.”  
Perfect love is best experienced in community.

**3. Love in Real Life**

1 John 4:16-19  
Jesus talked about different ways to express love:  
a. Loving the enemy, vv. 43-44  
b. Loving without expecting anything in return, v. 46  
c. Being friendly to all people, not just those we like, v. 47

The way the world loves:  
a. Love friends, hate enemies  
b. Love those who return love  
c. Greet only those we like

What holy love does  
a. Love enemies and pray for our persecutors.  
b. Love unconditionally  
c. Greet all people  
Romans 13:8-10.

1 Timothy 1:5  
Galatians 5:13-15  
Only when we have the mind of Christ can we begin to love like Christ.  
Colossians 1:25-29  
Galatians 5:6