

## Introduction

- "Most people are bothered by those passages of Scripture they don't understand - but I have always noticed that the passages that bother me are the ones I do understand." (Mark Twain)
  - this a passage very much about doing, and we'll try and concentrate on that aspect - the application - as much as possible!
  - with a couple of comments about the passages Jesus was alluding to in the OT by way of introduction

## Eye for eye, tooth for tooth!

- (22) *"If men who are fighting hit a pregnant woman and she gives birth prematurely but there is no serious injury, the offender must be fined whatever the woman's husband demands and the court allows. (23) But if there is serious injury, you are to take life for life, (24) eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot, (25) burn for burn, wound for wound, bruise for bruise. (Exodus 21:22-25)*
  - (19) *If anyone injures his neighbour, whatever he has done must be done to him: (20) fracture for fracture, eye for eye, tooth for tooth. As he has injured the other, so he is to be injured. (Leviticus 24:19-20)*
  - (18) *The judges must make a thorough investigation, and if the witness proves to be a liar, giving false testimony against his brother, (19) then do to him as he intended to do to his brother. You must purge the evil from among you. (20) The rest of the people will hear of this and be afraid, and never again will such an evil thing be done among you. (21) Show no pity: life for life, eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot. (Deuteronomy 19:18-21)*
- Jesus generalising from a principle

### Scenario

- You hear that someone in the church has said something to someone else about you that you feel is untrue.
  - in light of this passage, what do you do?

### Scenario

- Someone comes asking you for money.
  - Forfar prison parent story?
  - in light of this passage, what do you do?

### Scenario

- Your boss is taking advantage of the staff at work - including you. Its putting a stress on your family life, even making it hard to stay involved at church. And its affecting your work colleagues in similar ways.
  - in light of this passage, what do you do?

## Love your neighbour - hate your enemy!

- *"Do not seek revenge or bear a grudge against one of your people, but love your neighbor as yourself. I am the LORD. (Leviticus 19:18)*

### Who is my...?

- Jesus famously answered the question "Who is my neighbour?" with a story.
  - What story would you tell to answer the question, "Who is my enemy?"
- Reprise Mark Twain quote about the difficulty in applying what we do understand!
  - "Most people are bothered by those passages of Scripture they don't understand - but I have always noticed that the passages that bother me are the ones I do understand." (Mark Twain)