

# OPENING UP LOVE LIKE THAT

## Jesus is \_\_\_\_\_

*Matthew 3:23-25 Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and healing every disease and sickness among the people. 24 News about him spread all over Syria, and people brought to him all who were ill with various diseases, those suffering severe pain, the demon-possessed, those having seizures, and the paralyzed; and he healed them. 25 Large crowds from Galilee, the Decapolis, Jerusalem, Judea and the region across the Jordan followed him.*

*Luke 19:7 But when they saw it, they all complained, saying, "He has gone to be a guest with a man who is a sinner."*

*Luke 7:36-39 One of the Pharisees asked Jesus to have dinner with him, so Jesus went to his home and sat down to eat. 37 When a certain immoral woman from that city heard he was eating there, she brought a beautiful alabaster jar filled with expensive perfume. 38 Then she knelt behind him at his feet, weeping. Her tears fell on his feet, and she wiped them off with her hair. Then she kept kissing his feet and putting perfume on them. 39 When the Pharisee who had invited him saw this, he said to himself, "If this man were a prophet, he would know what kind of woman is touching him. She's a sinner!"*

*Matthew 11:28-30 Then Jesus said, "Come to me, all of you who are weary and carry heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you. Let me teach you, because I am humble and gentle at heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy to bear, and the burden I give you is light."*

**I AM KNOWN TO BE MORE INCLUSIVE THAN EXCLUSIVE.**

NEVER RARELY SOMETIMES OFTEN VERY OFTEN

**I WELCOME PEOPLE WITH DIFFERING IDEAS OR POLITICAL VIEWPOINTS EVEN TO THE POINT OF "TURNING THE OTHER CHEEK."**

NEVER RARELY SOMETIMES OFTEN VERY OFTEN

**I LEAN INTO HUMILITY FAR MORE THAN I LEAN INTO PRIDE.**

NEVER RARELY SOMETIMES OFTEN VERY OFTEN

**I ABSOLUTELY DETEST THE IDEA OF LOOKING DOWN ON OTHERS OR BEING SNOBBISH.**

NEVER RARELY SOMETIMES OFTEN VERY OFTEN

**I WANT TO INCLUDE ANYONE WHO LOOKS TO BE LEFT OUT OR FEELS REJECTED.**

NEVER RARELY SOMETIMES OFTEN VERY OFTEN

**I'M KNOWN BY MY FRIENDS AS SOMEONE WHO REACHES OUT TO UNDESIRABLE PEOPLE.**

NEVER RARELY SOMETIMES OFTEN VERY OFTEN

**I INTENTIONALLY DO NOT SIZE PEOPLE UP BY THEIR CLOTHES OR THEIR APPEARANCE.**

NEVER RARELY SOMETIMES OFTEN VERY OFTEN

I INTENTIONALLY WORK AT BEING LESS SELF-CENTERED AND NOT FEELING SUPERIOR TO OTHERS.

NEVER RARELY SOMETIMES OFTEN VERY OFTEN

I'M THE FIRST TO MAKE SURE SOMEONE IN A SOCIAL SETTING FEELS ACCEPTED AND INCLUDED.

NEVER RARELY SOMETIMES OFTEN VERY OFTEN

I WORK DILIGENTLY TO LOVE MY ENEMIES—THE PEOPLE WHO MAKE MY LIFE DIFFICULT.

NEVER RARELY SOMETIMES OFTEN VERY OFTEN

How can we be more \_\_\_\_\_?

\_\_\_\_\_ yourself

Offer \_\_\_\_\_

For your \_\_\_\_\_

Matthew 5:43-44 (TPT) Your ancestors have also been taught 'Love your neighbors and hate the one who hates you.' 44 However, I say to you, love your enemy, bless the one who curses you, do something wonderful for the one who hates you, and respond to the very ones who persecute you by praying for them.

Luke 6:28-30 (MSG) If someone slaps you in the face, stand there and take it. If someone grabs your shirt, gift wrap your best coat and make a present of it. If someone takes unfair advantage of you, use the occasion to practice the servant life.

Ephesians 5:1-2 (MSG) Watch what God does, and then you do it, like children who learn proper behavior from their parents. Mostly what God does is love you. Keep company with him and learn a life of love. Observe how Christ loved us. His love was not cautious but extravagant. He didn't love in order to get something from us but to give everything of himself to us. Love like that.

Matthew 5:45-47 (MSG) This is what God does. He gives his best—the sun to warm and the rain to nourish—to everyone, regardless: the good and bad, the nice and nasty. If all you do is love the lovable, do you expect a bonus? Anybody can do that. If you simply say hello to those who greet you, do you expect a medal? Any run-of-the-mill sinner does that.

With \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_

Luke 6:35-36 I tell you, love your enemies. Help and give without expecting a return. You'll never—I promise—regret it. Live out this God-created identity the way our Father lives toward us, generously and graciously, even when we're at our worst. Our Father is kind; you be kind.

Luke 6:31 Here is a simple rule of thumb for behavior: Ask yourself what you want people to do for you; then grab the initiative and do it for them!

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