

WHEN MY KIDS ARE BULLIED, Part 1
Sermon Series: I Am The Church
Sermon Outline
October 17, 2021
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- † *John 16:33, "I've told you all this so that in trusting me, you will be unshakable and at peace. In this godless world, you will experience difficulties, but take heart. I have conquered the world" (MSG).*
- † *2 Timothy 3:1-4, "You need to be aware that in the final days the culture of society will become extremely fierce. ²People will be self-centered lovers of themselves and obsessed with money. They will boast of great things as they strut around in their arrogant pride and mock all that is right. They will ignore their own families. They will be ungrateful and ungodly. ³They will become addicted to hateful and malicious slander. Slaves to their desires, they will be ferocious, belligerent haters of what is good and right. ⁴With brutal treachery, they will act without restraint, rude, bigoted and wrapped in clouds of their conceit. They will find their delight in the pleasures of this world more than the pleasures of the loving God" (TPT).*
- A definition of bullying? Bullying is any _____ where a person or group tries to _____ over somebody else.
- † *John 15:19-20, "If you were to give your allegiance to the world, they would love and welcome you as one of their own. But because you won't align yourself with the values of this world, they will hate you. I have chosen you and taken you out of the world to be mine. ²⁰So remember what I taught you, that a servant isn't superior to his master. And since they persecuted Me, they will also persecute you" (TPT).*

How Does God Want Our Kids To Deal With Bullying?

- 1. Coach your kids to see the _____.**
- † *Ephesians 6:12, "Your hand-to-hand combat is not with human beings, but with the highest principalities and authorities operating in rebellion under the heavenly realms. ²For they are a powerful class of demons and evil spirits that hold this dark world in bondage" (TPT).*
- 2. Consistently remind my kids _____. Their _____.**
- † *1 John 4:4, "My dear children, you belong to God and have defeated them because God's Spirit, who is in you, is greater than the devil, who is in the world" (NCV).*
- † *Psalms 56:3-4, "But in the day that I'm afraid, I lay all my fears before You and trust in You and Your Word with all my heart. ⁴What harm could a man bring to me? With God on my side, I will not be afraid of what comes. The roaring praises of God fill my heart as I trust His promises" (TPT).*
- Think of it this way: ____ plus _____ = a _____.
- 3. Convince my kids not to _____.**
- † *Romans 12:17-19, "If someone has done you wrong, never pay back evil with evil. If you do, then you're no better than they are. Instead, try to do what God and God's people considers to be good. ¹⁸Do everything possible on your part to live in peace with everybody. ¹⁹Never take revenge, my friends, but instead let God's anger do it, for the scripture says, 'I will avenge you and I will pay them back,' says the Lord" (PAR).*
- When someone commit an offense against your kids or you, and your kids or you decide to get even, to hurt them back, that puts you either on their level or below them. You're no better than they are. But when you forgive them and you walk away, it puts you in the superior position above them and it positions you for _____.
 - Romans 12:17-19 says that God _____ to either seek revenge or let God avenge your kids and/or you.
- 4. Champion my kids to choose _____, not _____.**
- Webster defines "redemption" as "the action of saving or being saved from sin, error, or evil." Revenge is the opposite of redemption — revenge is the path to sin, error and evil.
 - Redemption is two-fold: it is to keep you from _____ as well as keep the person who is bullying you _____.
- † *Romans 12:21, "Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good" (ESV).*
- † *Matthew 5:43-44, "Your ancestors have also been taught, 'Love your neighbors and hate the one who hates you.' ⁴⁴However, 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" (TPT).*

- The Greek New Testament word translated as “enemies” is [ἐχθρός; echthros]. The word itself does not so much refer to a person as it does to an _____ or _____ within someone that causes them to have _____ and/or _____ towards someone.
- † Proverbs 25:21, *If your enemies are hungry, give them food to eat. If they are thirsty, give them water to drink” (NLT).*
- † Proverbs 24:29, *“Don’t ever spitefully say, ‘I’ll get even with him! I’ll do to him what he did to me!’” (TPT).*
- † Matthew 5:38, *“You have heard the law that says the punishment must match the injury: ‘An eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth’” (NLT).*

Where Does Jesus Draw This “You Have Heard” From in Matthew 5:38?

- † Leviticus 24:17-22, *“Anyone who takes another person’s life must be put to death. ¹⁸Anyone who kills another person’s animal must pay for it in full—a live animal for the animal that was killed. ¹⁹Anyone who injures another person must be dealt with according to the injury inflicted— ²⁰a fracture for a fracture, an eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth. Whatever anyone does to injure another person must be paid back in kind. ²¹Whoever kills an animal must pay for it in full, but whoever kills another person must be put to death. ²²This same standard applies both to native-born Israelites and to the foreigners living among you. I am the Lord your God” (NLT).*
 - † Exodus 21:23b-25, *“The punishment must match the injury: a life for a life, ²⁴an eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth, a hand for a hand, a foot for a foot, ²⁵a burn for a burn, a wound for a wound, a bruise for a bruise” (NLT).*
- _____ . The Romans had a law called the Lex Talionis, which was based on an older law dating back by some 1,750 in Babylon called the Code of Hammurabi. In the Code of Hammurabi the Romans adopted the clause in the that code that said a person a legal right for a “tit for tat” if they showed _____. Exodus 21:23b-25, Leviticus 24:17-22, the Code of Hammurabi and the Lex Talionis _____. It lays down that only the man who committed the injury must be punished, and his punishment must be no more than the _____ he had inflicted and the damage he had done. Placed in its historical context these laws were laws of mercy. Why?

 - To curtail a further _____ .
 - † Deuteronomy 19:20, *“Then everyone will know that justice has been served so that no one will take the law into their own hands” (PAR).*
 - To prevent _____ based on _____ .
 - † Genesis 4:23-24, *“One day Lamech said to Adah and Zillah, “Listen to me, my wives. I have killed a youth who attacked and wounded me. ²⁴If anyone who kills Cain will be punished seven times, anyone taking revenge against me for killing that youth should be punished seventy-seven times!” (TLB).*
 - † Deuteronomy 32:35a, *“God said, “Vengeance is Mine to repay” (ESV).*
 - † Romans 12:19, *“Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, “Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord” (ESV).*
 - † Hebrews 10:30, *“For we know Him who said, “Vengeance is mine; I will repay”” (ESV).*
 - † Matthew 5:39, *“However, I say to you, don’t repay an evil act with another evil act. But whoever insults you by slapping you on the right cheek, turn the other to him as well” (TPT).*
 - † Matthew 26:67-68, *“Then they began to spit in Jesus’ face and beat Him with their fists. And some slapped Him, ⁶⁸jeering, ‘Prophecy to us, You Messiah! Who hit You that time?’” (NLT).*
 - † John 18:22, *“Then one of the Temple guards standing nearby slapped Jesus across the face. ‘Is that the way to answer the high priest?’ he demanded” (NLT).*
 - The Greek New Testament word translated as “slapping” in Matthew 5:39 is [ραπίζω; rapizō] and it means “to strike or hit or slap with the _____.” There was one other way to hit the right cheek. When [ραπίζω; rapizō] is used in reference to the right hand, it means to strike with the _____.
 - † Luke 23:39-43, *“One of the criminals hanging on the cross next to Jesus kept ridiculing Him, saying, ‘What kind of Messiah are You? Save Yourself and save us from this death!’ ⁴⁰The criminal hanging on the other cross rebuked the man, saying, ‘Don’t you fear God? You’re about to die! ⁴¹We deserve to be condemned. We’re just being repaid for what we’ve done. But this man—He’s done nothing wrong!’ ⁴²Then he said, ‘I beg of You, Jesus, show me grace and take me with You into Your everlasting kingdom!’ ⁴³Jesus responded, ‘I promise you—this very day you will enter paradise with Me’” (TPT).*
 - † Matthew 27:54, *“When the centurion and those with him who were guarding Jesus saw the earthquake and all that had happened, they were terrified, and exclaimed, “Surely He was the Son of God!” (NIV).*
 - When our kids know the _____, then it helps to convict them to do the _____.