



# SERMON NOTES

Week 3 October 20, 2024

**“Malice Toward None, Charity for All”**

*Matthew 18:21-35; Matthew 25:31-46*



## I. Introduction

- A. The namesake of this Week 3 message comes from the late President \_\_\_\_\_’s Second Inaugural Address where he sought to bring together a country torn apart by the Civil War.
- B. The United Methodist Church has \_\_\_\_\_ Simple Rules: Do No Harm; Do Good; Stay in love with God.
- C. The pretext for Jesus’ Parable of the Unforgiving Servant was that Peter wished to know how many times he had to \_\_\_\_\_ a brother or sister who sinned against him.

## II. Malice Toward None

- A. In an unprecedented act, the “king” in Jesus’ parable forgave a servant who owed him a crazy debt because he took \_\_\_\_\_ upon him when the servant asked for patience.
- B. We should actively remove malice from our hearts because \_\_\_\_\_ have sinned
- C. The hymn \_\_\_\_\_ speaks to our need for God’s help to work on accepting others as God accepts us.

## III. Charity for All

- A. Through the Parable of the Sheep and the Goats, God praises those who \_\_\_\_\_ the hungry, give \_\_\_\_\_ to the thirsty, \_\_\_\_\_ the sick and imprisoned, and \_\_\_\_\_ the naked.
- B. The priority in Jesus’ teaching is that we should \_\_\_\_\_ good to the “least of these,” including those who think, believe, and vote differently than us.
- C. Our charge is that we must do good to \_\_\_\_\_.

### ***Things I Would Like to Remember About This Message***

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# ASBURY DAILY STUDY GUIDE *October 21-26, 2024*

## INTRODUCTION

We have explored “The Power of Kindness” and “Common Ground” in the first half of this *Do Unto Others* series. In this third week, we seek to intentionally “do” good unto others while also ridding ourselves of malice and other negative emotions that easily divide us. While potentially daunting when considering this as a whole, the practice of such living is broken down into moment by moment, day-by-day charitable deeds. Let us boldly follow our faith and the Spirit’s leading as we increase kindness and love around us.

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### Monday: Colossians 1:21-23

The early Church firmly believed that their witness needed to be devoid of malice since God had turned them from enemies into His beloved children. We can find common ground if we move to looking at others not as enemies but as fellow people in need of God’s grace. How do you see this concept being played out around you? What could it look like if it was fully embraced it?

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### Tuesday: Romans 12:9-13

A time-tested tactic to develop a new skill or behavior is to practice it regularly. In seeking to rid ourselves of malice and replace it with charity, we are to practice hospitality continually. What good deeds will you do today to further your practice of charity to all?

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### Wednesday: Lyrics from “Help Us Accept Each Other” (*United Methodist Hymnal #560*)

*Hymn lyrics can be found at <https://www.hopepublishing.com/find-hymns-hw/hw3521.aspx>*

This hymn has more than the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> verses that were discussed in this week’s sermon. Which verse most speaks to you? Why do you think that is? How might the honest calling of this hymn’s verses help you in your pursuit of holding no malice towards others, but instead offer charity to all?

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### Thursday: Matthew 23:3-4

Moving forward with the commandment to “do unto others” requires reflection. A wary eye for any possible hypocrisy helps to improve the genuineness of our witness and faith. When we can be honest and not utterly berate ourselves for failure, we can, with God’s help, improve our Christian following tomorrow.

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### Friday: James 1:22-25

Part of what we do daily in devotions and weekly in group worship is learn more about what God is saying to us. Yet, hearing is only part of what we are to do. In living out Jesus’ command to “do unto others” we must live our faith. How or what will help keep you accountable this day and week as you seek to be both a hearer and doer of God’s Word?

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## MOVING FORWARD

Removing malice may not be an overnight reality. You may find daily reflection helps to identify the source of the impatience, anger, or ill will that might be stirring in our hearts and minds. Having heart-to-heart conversations with close friends may also help us work through tough situations to remove malice. At all times, any of us can (and should) seek the Lord’s help and seek new opportunities to be charitable, kind and loving to everyone around us. Amen.

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*Answers to the sermon notes: IA) Abraham Lincoln B) Three C) forgive. IIA) pity, B) all, C) Help Us Accept Each Other. IIIA) fed, drink, visit, clothe, B) do, C) all.*