

I. How can we respond in faith to a lost and hostile world?

A. Know and live out your identity in Christ

1. **1 John 3:1 (ESV)** ¹ *See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him.*
2. **1 Peter 2:9-12 (ESV)**
⁹ *But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.* ¹⁰ *Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.*

B. Do good to those who spitefully use you

1. **1 Peter 2:11-12** ¹¹ *Beloved, I urge you as sojourners and exiles to abstain from the passions of the flesh, which wage war against your soul.* ¹² *Keep your conduct among the Gentiles honorable, so that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day of visitation.*
2. **Luke 6:27-36 (ESV)** “But I say to you who hear,
 - a. Love your enemies,
 - b. do good to those who hate you,
 - c. bless those who curse you,
 - d. pray for those who abuse you.
 - e. To one who strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also,
 - f. and from one who takes away your cloak do not withhold your tunic either.
 - g. Give to everyone who begs from you,
 - h. and from one who takes away your goods do not demand them back.
 - i. And as you wish that others would do to you, do so to them.
3. “If you love those who love you, what benefit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what benefit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. And if you lend to those from whom you expect to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to get back the same amount.
 - a. But love your enemies, and do good,
 - b. and lend, expecting nothing in return,
 - c. and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he is kind to the ungrateful and the evil.
 - d. Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful.

C. Love = doing what is necessary to help lost people find their way into God's love

1. Love the gospel and proclaim the gospel