

LESSON 5

WHEN SPARKS FLY

1 PETER 3:8–22



1 What do people mean when they say, “I don’t get mad; I get even”?

2 Why do people want to get even?



Read 1 Peter 3:8–22 and the following notes:

☐ 3:9 ☐ 3:11 ☐ 3:14, 15 ☐ 3:16

3 Why should we “repay evil . . . with a blessing” (3:9–12)?

4 How can our response to insults, abuse, or personal attacks help lead people to Christ (3:15, 16)?

Peter's audience probably had as many interpersonal conflicts as we do. And, just like us, those Christians needed to handle conflict in a Christlike manner. What's more, they needed to know how to respond when they were attacked unjustly. Peter instructed them to endure unjust attacks patiently, respond with a blessing, and be ready to explain the reason for their unusual response. Anyone can fight back or retaliate when wronged. Christ's example not only gives us a reason to respond in love but requires us to do so.



5 What does it mean to repay evil with a blessing?

6 What is uniquely Christian about responding to attacks with blessing?

7 When are you tempted to retaliate or fight back?



8 What can you do to lessen the temptation to retaliate?

9 What can you do to bless your attackers?

10 With whom are you likely to clash over the next few days?



11 How can you prepare yourself to bless this person when the conflict arises?

A What is the purpose of baptism (3:21)? Whom can you encourage to be baptized?

B What is a Christian's responsibility toward the unbelievers with whom he/she comes in contact (3:15)? Who are the unbelievers with whom you normally come in contact? What questions might they have about Christianity? How can you prepare yourself for their questions?

C Why does living a righteous life invite criticism from others (3:16)? What criticism have you received? What has this criticism taught you?

MORE
for studying
other themes
in this section