

**Message Summary:** Mark Twain once remarked, “Some people are troubled by the things in the Bible they can’t understand. The things that trouble me are the things I can understand.” As we study Matthew 5:38-42, it becomes very clear – to **become** a Christian is easy, to **be** a Christian is another matter altogether. How shall we conduct ourselves in a way that will bring the glory of Jesus for the goodness of others?

## **The New Normal**

### **Matthew 5:38-42**

1. Not Getting What You Deserve – v. 38-39
2. Giving More Than You Are Asked Of – v. 40
3. Going Farther Than You’re Required To – v. 41
4. Be Willing to Grant All That Is Needed – v. 42

#### **LifeGroup Questions:**

**BEGIN IT** – (5min) Sing praise to the Lord & pray that God leads the study.

**OPEN IT**- (10min) Are there old norms which you let go of once you became a Christian? What are the new norms that replaced these? Explain.

**EXPLORE IT**- (60min) Read Matthew 5:38-42 and review Sunday’s sermon outline together and add additional notes people made about the message.

1. What situations or actions have personally offended you? What do you do to reduce or eliminate its effects on you?
2. In what areas of your life do you give more than what is asked of you?
3. How far are you willing to do what is asked of you before you start harboring ill feelings and resent what you’re being asked to do?
4. Are you generous with what you have and what are the things you are not generous with?

**APPLY IT**- (15min) As you rediscover what your new normal duties are as a Christian, how will you distinguish it from something that is required of you versus something that you’re doing by going the extra mile?