

# What Would Jesus (*really*) Do?

You've seen "WWJD" and heard the phrase "What Would Jesus Do?" Perhaps you picture Jesus as a kind and gentle guy who never did anything that people would consider mean, who was generous and helped everyone, who always said nice things to people, who talked about love, and who told us that it was good to let people slap us (turn the other cheek).

So you are living like that in your relationship. But the more you "live like Jesus," the worse your relationship is getting, and the worse you are being treated.

Do you ever wonder: "What would Jesus REALLY do?" Did Jesus allow himself to be treated poorly?

In searching Scripture to see what Jesus actually did when people were mean to him (e.g. when they tried to hurt him, trap him, or manipulate him), here's what you can add to your list of Christ-like behavior:

- withholding information from people who asked (Matt 21:27, Luke 23: 9, Luke 22: 67)
- name-calling (Matt 22: 18, Matt 23: 15, 17; John 8:55)
- calling people out on their double standards (Matt 23: 3, Luke 12: 39)
- accusing people of what they're doing wrong (Matt 23: 13, Mark 12: 24; John 7:19)
- telling people not to be so generous that they're no longer taking care of themselves (Matt 25: 9)
- saying it's OK to throw people out who aren't pulling their weight (Matt 25: 30)
- getting angry at people who were more concerned about the institution of the law than about people (Mark 3: 5)
- insulting (Mark 4: 13, Mark 7:18, Luke 11: 45)
- advising his followers to leave where they're not welcomed (Mark 6:11)
- getting exasperated with ignorance (Mark 8: 17,18; Mark 9:19, Luke 9:41; John 3:10)
- speaking against others (Mark 12: 12)
- criticizing (Mark 12: 40)
- escaping persecution (Luke 4: 29,30; John 4:3, John 6: 15, John 7:1, John 7:30, John 8:59; John 10: 39, John 11: 54)
- humiliating people (Luke 13: 17)
- defending himself and encouraging others to do so with words and wisdom (Luke 21: 14, 15; John 34-38; John 18: 23)
- making a whip, overturning tables, yelling (you know the passages)

Jesus was kind and gentle, but he was also just and truthful and bold. So next time someone talks about being like Jesus, ask yourself "What would Jesus REALLY do?" And go to His Word to find out.

Need to talk to Abigail about your relationship?

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