

2nd Mile graphic w/email address

2nd Mile graphic plus Matthew 5:41...

Matthew 5:41

And if anyone forces you to go one mile, go with him **two**.

Often, “the best” goes down a road called “hard.”

*“The Christian principle of ‘love your enemies’ is good ... there is nothing to be said against it except that it is **too difficult** for most of us to practice sincerely.”*

{Bertrand Russell: atheist philosopher}

1 John 5:2-4

This is how we know that we love God’s children: when we love God and obey his commands. For this is what **love for God** is: to keep His commands. And His commands are **not a burden**, because everyone who has been born of God conquers the world. This is the victory that has conquered the world: our faith.

Matthew 11:25-26

At that time Jesus said, “I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and intelligent and revealed them to **infants**. Yes, Father, because this was Your good pleasure.

The starting line for the 2nd mile: **“I can’t ...”**

Matthew 11:27

All things have been entrusted to Me by My Father. No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom **the Son desires to reveal Him**.

Embrace the **authority of Jesus → regarding the best way to **live**.**

Matthew 11:28

“Come to Me, all of you who are **weary and burdened**, and I will give you **rest**.”

Recognize that we cannot get to the 2nd mile unless we have been **with Jesus.**

Recognize that doing it **our way** (not Jesus' way) brings the burden and creates the weariness.

Matthew 11:29

Take up **My yoke** and **learn** from Me, because I am **lowly and humble** in heart, and you will find rest for your **souls**.

{come up at once; same slide}

Jesus is not relieving us of 2nd mile responsibility.

Jesus is inviting us to come and learn ...

{come up one at a time}

How do I spend time with Jesus ...?

- Religious duty?
- Information? Knowledge?
- Trying to get something from Him?
- Training to become like Him?

Matthew 11:30

For **My** yoke is **easy** and **My** burden is **light**.

{come up one at a time}

Hard & heavy ...?

Am I carrying His Yoke ...?

Have I come to Jesus to learn ...?

1) **Who** we are is always prior to what we **do**.

2) What kind of **relationship with Jesus** do I currently and really have?

3) What makes us weary and burdened is not (always) the things we do but the things we **believe**.

→ Recognize the "spirit of the age"

{Come up one at a time}

Recognize “bad” beliefs and/or “wrong” methods

- What “they” say or think ...
- Over importance/emphasis on material and worldly things
- Wrong expectations/beliefs
- Speculations; conspiracy theories
- Do it alone ... on my own
- Do it with anger, manipulation, harshness, etc?

{come up one at a time}

Where I am drawing affirmation?

What is my “scoreboard” or definition of success?

Did I learn that from Jesus?

Matthew 11:28-30

“Come to Me, all of you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take up My yoke and learn from Me, because I am lowly and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy and my burden is light.”