NEWS BROADCAST SKIT—Integrative Project, Gospels, Spring 2007
Mary Hogg, Mailbox 133
Designed for grades 4-6

“Loving your Neighbors and your Enemies”
Based on Matthew 5: 43-48 (NRSV)

“You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be children of your Father in heaven; for he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the righteous and on the unrighteous. For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? And if you greet only your brothers and sisters, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same? Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.”

See “Notes for Teachers” at the end of this packet.

TV STATION: WKBL, along the Sea of Galilee

CHARACTERS NEEDED:
2 anchor persons (Anchor 1, and Anchor 2)
1 weather person
1 remote live action “on the street” reporter
Jesus
Matthew
Judas
10 more disciples
Passerby 1
Passerby 2
Other characters, depending on which stories are chosen (this is an “interchangeable” script, so that any story can be substituted depending on teacher preference)

ANCHOR 1: Good morning ladies and gentlemen, and welcome to our Biblical news broadcast, coming to you live from Galilee. This is TV station WKBL, and my name is______________.

ANCHOR 2: Good morning to you,______________, and good morning Galileans! My name is______________, and we will be giving you up to minute news coverage of all the news that is fit to print, and is of Biblical proportions. As part of tonight’s broadcast,
we are featuring the first in a series of five stories, with a special feature on “Loving Your Enemies” coming up later in the broadcast. Stay tuned.

ANCHOR 1: Let’s hear from our weather person, with what the weather looks like today, and through the week by the Sea of Galilee.

WEATHER: Good morning, my name is ____________, and welcome to the wonderful world of Biblical weather. It is sunny and warm, and around 95 degrees Fahrenheit in the region of Manasseh, by the Sea of Galilee. Temperatures will continue through the week in the 90’s, and according to our high tech Doplar Radar, it looks like there might be some light rain predicted late in the week, but temperatures will remain steady. In the desert, there will be some rise in the temperatures to around 110 degrees in the shade. Back to you, ____________ and ____________.

ANCHOR 2: Thank you for that thorough report ____________. Now, let’s take a look at our local and regional news stories today—just two of the miracles of Jesus Christ. On Monday of this week, Jesus, in what was an amazing feat, turned six stone water jars full of water into wine at the wedding feast at Cana.

ANCHOR 1: Let’s ask a couple of people “on the street” what they thought when witnessing this miraculous event. One passerby on the street commented,

PASSERBY 1: Wow! This is certainly amazing! I’ve never seen anything quite like it!!
PASSERBY 2: Dude, I can hardly believe it! This dude, Jesus Christ, is phenomenal! It sure beats TV reality shows!

ANCHOR 2: On Wednesday of this week, Jesus was visiting a Woman of Samaria. In Sychar, there was a woman who had a well. Jesus asked her for a drink, yet the woman said “Sir, you have no bucket and the well is deep.” She questioned Jesus about where He could get living water. As reported in the Book of John, chapter 4, Jesus said to her,

JESUS (FROM THE SIDE): “Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life.”

ANCHOR 2: So, the miracle of Jesus was that the woman of Samaria came to believe that He was the Messiah, because Jesus told her everything that she had ever done. How about this guy named Jesus Christ?

ANCHOR 1: Jesus Christ is the Son of the Father, who is God. Christ came into the world to do God’s work, that’s for sure. Our Special Feature story of the day is the most amazing story from the Bible—when Jesus Christ practices what He preaches and teaches. This story is all about Matthew 5: 43-48, loving your neighbors and your enemies.
ANCHOR 1 AND 2: But first, this is station WKBL, and we’ll be back, after this commercial message, brought to you by LSI, or Love Seminars Incorporated.

COMMERCIAL TEAM:
Hey folks! Have you been suffering from a “lack of caring” in your interpersonal relationships? Have you been frustrated and angry with friends, family, and those who are close to you? Well, have we got a deal for you!!

It is the newest thing since the Bible! It is the AMAZING “Love your Enemies” kit!!
This is “just the ticket” to brighten up your days, and to improve your relationships with all people in your life!!

For just $19 dollars and 99 cents, you will receive a “Pray for those who Persecute You” calendar with detailed instructions, a “How to Avoid Living Like a Tax Collector” book, and a BRAND NEW BOOK, “How to be Perfect as God is Perfect”!!!

When you too, just like Jesus, can learn to Love your Enemies, it will change your life forever. At Love Seminars Incorporated, we can help you with any questions you might have after you receive these THREE incredible books, all for just $19.99.

So, call now, 1-800-LSI-LOVE, and if you call within the next 24 hours, you will receive an additional bonus book entitled “LOVING YOUR ENEMIES IN THE NEW
MILLENIUM”, subtitled “LIVING A CHRIST-LIKE LIFE”. Order now! Don’t delay! $19.99 improves your life once and for all! Operators are standing by to take your call.

And now, back to the newscast!

ANCHOR 1: Welcome back to WKBL TV NEWS, broadcasting live from Galilee! Our top story this morning is all above love. Let’s go live to our remote reporter, _______________________. Can you hear me,__________________________?

REMOTE REP: Yes, I can hear you, _______________! This is so amazing. I just saw the most bizarre, yet miraculous, event happen! Jesus Christ loves his enemies. He loves people all over the world who are less fortunate, and living in poverty, and who are downtrodden. He loves the people who wanted to crucify him. His love is eternal, unconditional love, and He loves each of us.

REMOTE: Jesus, could you tell me what you just did?

JESUS: I knew that there was one among my disciples who would betray me for thirty pieces of silver, given to him by the chief priests. I love this man to this day, he is my friend, and his name is Judas Iscariot. Here’s how the story unfolded according to the Gospel of Matthew 26: 20-25…
MATTHEW: When it was evening, he took his place with the twelve; and while they were eating, he said,

JESUS: Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me.

MATTHEW: And they became greatly distressed and began to say to him one after another,

DISCIPLES: (one after another) Surely not I, Lord?

MATTHEW: He answered…

JESUS: The one who has dipped his hand into the bowl with me will betray me. The Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that one by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that one not to have been born. (Judas seems like my enemy, but I love him nonetheless.)

MATTHEW: Judas, who betrayed him, said…

JUDAS: Surely not I, Rabbi?"

MATTHEW: He replied…
JESUS: You have said so.

JESUS: So, the Last Supper continued with me teaching my disciples about things they needed to know in order to carry on my work; things about God and faith. Judas left in the middle to go and get the band of priests and officers who would arrest me. And I still loved Judas, and love him to this day. They came back to arrest me. The Gospel of Matthew 26: 47-50 tells the story…

MATTHEW: “While he was still speaking, Judas, one of the twelve, arrived; with him was a large crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests and the elders of the people. Now the betrayer (Judas) had given them a sign, saying,

JUDAS: The one I will kiss is the man; arrest him.

MATTHEW: At once he came up to Jesus and said,

JUDAS: Greetings, Rabbi!

MATTHEW: …and kissed him. Jesus said to him,…

JESUS: Friend, do what you are here to do.

MATTHEW: Then they came and laid hands on Jesus and arrested him.
JESUS: And the rest, as they say, is Biblical history and the affirmation of light and life for the world.

REMOTE: Wow! That is an incredible story! A story that, to think, led Christ to His Crucifixion on the Cross. So, Jesus Christ, Son of Man, you loved Judas, and still love him to this day? Why?

JESUS: Because it is better to love your enemies, as well as your neighbors. I know that is a tough lesson to learn, but it is so true. This is what God the Father teaches each of us. I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you. They know not what they do. Why live like the tax collectors? Why just love your brothers and sisters and people you know?

REMOTE: Yes, that’s right all you out there in TV land. Jesus is one “right-on” dude. When we love everyone, friends and enemies, we love, and that is the greatest gift God has given each of us—the capacity to love that is never-ending. When we love our enemies, and we pray for them, we become perfect as our heavenly Father is perfect.

JESUS: That’s right my children. Listen to this TV reporter.

REMOTE: Well, thank you Jesus, and thank you, disciples. Now, back to you at the station, _________________ and _________________! This has been
______________, reporting to you live from the region of Galilee. And remember, love your enemies.

ANCHOR 1: Thank you, ________________. Well, this concludes our broadcast this morning. We, at WKBL, hope you have enjoyed the broadcast, and hope to have you back with us in the studio tomorrow for more miraculous accounts of the work of Jesus Christ. And there are hundreds, if not thousands more, stories of Jesus loving His enemies. For the next five days, we’ll feature one of those stories in our Special Feature.

ANCHOR 2: Let’s take one more look at our Doplar Radar High Tech weather forecast. What do you say, __________?

WEATHER PERSON: The temperature in the area is currently ranging from 95 degrees here at the Sea, to 110 degrees in the shade in the desert. There will be light rains later in the week, but the sunshine lasts all year round when Christ is in us and with us.

ANCHORS 1 and 2: Thanks for tuning in. Have a great day, and God Bless!
NOTES FOR TEACHERS:

1) Depending on the size of your Sunday School class, you may have to double-up or triple-up on parts. You could make the “anchor” one person, not two. You could also use less than 10 disciples for the very brief appearance they make. There are many ways to streamline on people involved in the skit.

2) The skit is designed to have the ability for you to interchange Biblical lessons/stories into the script. Taking the same basic format, you can plug in different stories, places, etc. Depending on what lesson you want to work with in Sunday School, this works very well.

3) You could also add props, costumes, and give a performance to the congregation as a temple talk, or special children’s sermon.

ENJOY THIS SKIT! I had fun writing it, and hope that you will have fun performing it, and working with it to teach the lessons of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

God’s Blessings!