

SERMON ON THE MOUNT

The Law Fulfilled, Anger, Lust Matthew 5:17-30

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Supplemental Scripture

Galatians 4:4-5 Romans 8:2-4 Proverbs 21:24 Exodus 20:13-14 James 1:15

Discussion Questions for Personal Life and Community Gathering

1. **Accountability.** Take a few minutes at the beginning or end of group time and discuss how your life has changed this week based on the teachings of Christ. How did you live differently? How have your perceptions changed? How did your reactions change? What did God point out in your life or in what areas did He convict you? Has repentance occurred? If so, in what areas of your life?

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2. **What Jesus Taught.** Read Matthew 5:17-20. What does Jesus teach about His relationship to the law? About our responsibility to the law?

Read Matthew 5:21-26. How did the Pharisees interpret this law? How does Jesus interpret this law? What is our responsibility to anger amongst our fellow Christians in the church?

Read Matthew 5:27-30. How did the Pharisees interpret this law? How does Jesus interpret this law? How are we to avoid this area of sin (literally)?

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3. **What Jesus Meant.** What does Jesus mean when He discusses His relationship to the law in Matthew 5:17-18? What does that mean for us? Discuss verse 20. How does it lead us back to Matthew 5:3?

What is the affect for us of Jesus' interpretation of the 6th and 7th commandments (think external obedience versus internal motivation)?

In verses 29-30, how should we properly apply this scripture in our life?

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4. **Application.** Why is the law important? How does it relate to you daily? Discuss how Jesus fortifies the importance and necessity of the Old Testament?

Discuss righteous anger versus selfish anger. What is the difference? How does selfish anger affect your worship? How does it affect the church?

Contemplate adultery and lust. How does lust equate to adultery? How do we protect our purity in today's society? What guards have you put into place to protect you from anger and lust?

Prayer: Close in a time of prayer asking Jesus to make His teachings precious to you. May the law and His teaching of it be what we long to be found faithful in. Pray that we would be a people that is slow to anger and quick to love and forgive. Pray that our fellowship would be one of harmony and community, not one of strife. Pray that we would be a people that are pure in heart and mind, a people who believe in and cherish the sanctity of marriage. Finally pray that we would handle the law carefully and faithfully from the least to the greatest. Protect us from ourselves. Amen.

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Next Week: Matthew 5:31-37