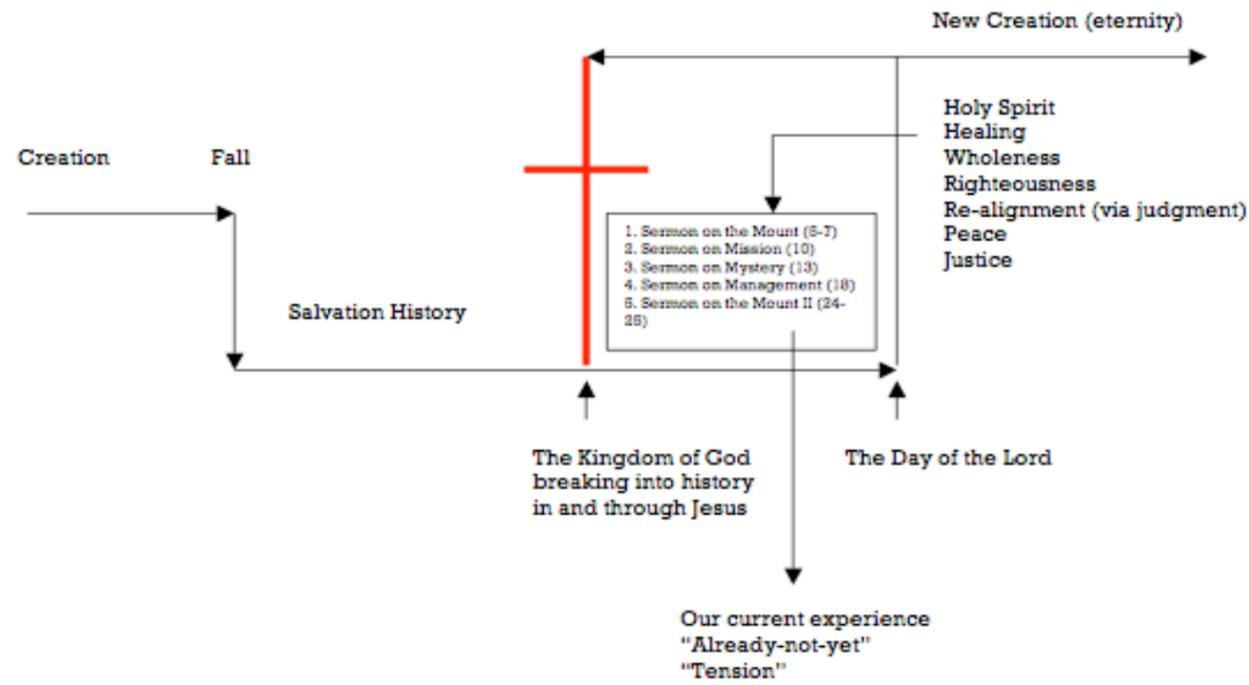


Sermon on the Mount

Sermon Notes and Study Questions

*Lakefield Baptist Church
January 6th – February 10th 2013*



Study 6
Protecting our Holy Longings and Sacred Relationships
Matthew 5:27-30

Study Questions:

1. Do you see any connection between what Jesus says about murder/anger and what He says about adultery-just? (clue: "righteousness" as "right-relationship")

2. Do you think it is harder for us in the 21st century to follow Jesus on this than it was for people of the 1st century? Why or why not?

3. There is a fine line between "appreciation" and "just". What is the difference? And where is that line?

Is it the same for all people? Is it the same for both sexes?

4. What are we to make of Jesus' prescription for just?

Actually pluck out our eye? Or is He saying something else? If so, what is He saying?

And how might we live it out as rigorously as we would if we literally plucked out an eye?

If you are in a group, it might be wise to divide:

men with men; women with women.

5. What are the unique struggles you have with this issue?

6. Under what conditions is this struggle most fierce for you?

7. Is there anything to which you would like to be held accountable? (If you do not have an accountability partner, talk to pastor Ben or one of the deacons)

8. How does all this make you want to pray?

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Study 6
Protecting our Holy Longings and Sacred Relationships
Matthew 5:27-30

Sermon Notes:

Introduction:

Over the next few weeks we will be listening to Jesus' Sermon on the Mount.

This study guide has been prepared to accompany you as you listen to the sermon each Sunday.

With each study there are two parts, space to write sermon notes, and study questions that you can use either in a small group setting or on your own.

Many of the questions in this study have been borrowed, with permission, from Darrell Johnson, which he prepared for his congregation at First Baptist Church in Vancouver.

My hope is that as we work through the Sermon on the Mount together, we will be encouraged in the faith, united in our common life together in the Spirit, and transformed as disciples, living under the reign and rule of King Jesus.

Blessings!

Pastor Ben

Jesus now begins to explain what He means by coming to “fulfill” the Law and the Prophets (5:17). What He says reveals just how much He knows about us and where we live

Remember: when Jesus says, “but I say to you”, He is not setting Himself against the Law as we have it in the Ten Commandments. Rather, He is speaking to distorted understandings of the Law.

1. In what way(s) were people in the first century playing games with the command not to murder? In what way(s) do we do this?

2. What does being angry have to do with murder? That is, why would Jesus quote the command about murder and then think right away about anger?

3. Note the escalation in the text, from the serious to the more serious. Why does this happen?

4. What does Jesus call us to do with our anger?

5. Why does Jesus call us to do it “quickly”? What are the consequences if we do not act “quickly”?

6. Why do we resist Jesus on this? And what can we do about it?

Remember the context – The Kingdom of God has come!

7. How does all this make you want to pray?

Study 5
Settle Matters Quickly
Matthew 5:21-26

Sermon Notes:

Study 1
The Context for the Sermon on the Mount
Matthew 5-7

Study Questions:

As you heard Jesus preaching His Sermon on the Mount,

1. What challenged you?

2. What questions come to mind?

(Read Matthew 4:12-5:1)

3. Why is it significant that Matthew is quoting Isaiah 9?
 And how does this set the stage for Jesus' life and ministry?

4. What does it mean to repent?

5. What do you think of when you hear 'the Kingdom of Heaven (God)?

6. What does 'has come near' mean to you?

7. How does this affect the way we hear the Sermon on the Mount?

8. In Matthew 4:23, we see Jesus ushering in the Kingdom of God, describe some of the initial signs

9. Where do you see signs of the Kingdom in our day?

10. Why do you think we do not seem to see more?

11. How does all this make you want to pray?

Study Questions:

1. Notice how Jesus speaks of Himself in this text:
2. Notice how Jesus expresses His agenda for His ministry:
 - The Moral Law – the 10 commandments, they reveal God's character and His nature
 - Civil Law – found in Deuteronomy, which dictate how the Jewish people were to live
 - Ceremonial Law – found in Leviticus, which lay out the parameters for worship
3. How does Jesus 'fulfill' the Ceremonial Law?
4. How does Jesus 'fulfill' the Civil Law?
5. How does Jesus 'fulfill' the Moral Law?
6. Read Psalm 19. Why does the Psalmist love God's law?
7. How would you explain this to someone who is suspicious of 'law'?
8. How do you read Matthew 5:20? In particular, how do you take the word "surpass" or "exceed"? How do you feel about what Jesus says?
9. The term "righteousness" means "right-relationship." Does this help you understand what Jesus is getting at? Where do you want to grow in "right-relationships"?
10. How does this make you want to pray?

Study 4
The Great Fulfilment
Matthew 5:17-20

Sermon Notes:

Study 2
The Beatitudes
Matthew 5:1-12

Study Questions:

1. Which Beatitude is most attractive to you today?

2. Which Beatitude is least attractive to you today?

3. Notice the whole package of Beatitudes is bracketed by “theirs is the kingdom” (verses 3 and 9). Why is this important?

4. Walk through each of the eight Beatitudes and suggest why each is a sign of or manifestation of the arrival and in-breaking of the Kingdom?

5. Where do you see the qualities of the Beatitudes in your own life? Where do you want to see them?

6. How does all this make you want to pray?

Study Questions:

1. What are some of the claims that Jesus makes about Himself throughout the New Testament?

2. Jesus also makes a number of claims about those who follow Him, name a few:

3. What would people of the first century think about when they heard the word "salt"?

4. What would they think of when they heard the word "light"?

5. What is Jesus saying about His disciples in claiming that they are "the salt of the earth"?

What role or function is He claiming we are to play on the earth?

6. What is Jesus saying about His disciples in claiming that we are "the light of the world"?

What role or function is He claiming we are to play in the world?

7. Where do you see this actually happening in Lakefield?

8. Where does it need to happen?

9. Where is it not happening?

And what does this suggest to you about our church?

Sermon Notes: