

Small Group Questions | October 8th, 2017

Kingdom Values: Kingdom Integrity (Matthew 5:21-37)

Sermon Recap: Rich spoke on a challenging passage of Jesus' commands on inward vs outward conduct. He said Jesus tells us 'anger kills,' 'love is not a consumer product,' 'divorce is too easy,' and our 'words matter.' Though we have natural inclinations to skirt the fullness of God's call, we must press on towards transformation by his Spirit, empowering us to live a perfect life.

Hook: *These questions can help encourage conversation.*

1. Professor Virginia Owens was encouraged that the Sermon on the Mount was still offensive to her students. How do you react to the truths from this passage?

Look: *Read the sermon passage. Answer the following textual questions.*

2. How or why does anger kill in word or deed? Look also at James 3:1-12, Mat 15:11.
3. You've heard it said...but I say. How and why do we legislate God's commands to make them more doable? (see also James 1:14-16)
4. Why is divorce too easy? What is adultery?
5. Why are we to be integrated (whole) in all aspects of our lives, our relationships, words, deed, and ministry? (see also Psalm 101:1-4)

Took: *Applying the message to our lives.*

6. Have you had any deadly words come out of your mouth recently? What are you going to do about it?
7. Where in your life are you neglecting your need for Jesus? Relying on yourself? Legislating your own law on anger, lust or faithful commitment?
8. Notice how all of God's commands here impact the community of believers and not just the individual. In light of Jesus' heart behind these hard truths (Jesus wanting to remove these deadly evils from his Kingdom in order to promote life and unity) how do you want to respond?

Prayer/Verse: But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lustful intent has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. For it is better that you lose one of your members than that your whole body be thrown into hell. – Matt. 5:28-29.