

LIFE GROUP

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

The Good Life: In Our Heart March 9, 2025

Summary

In this sermon, Kyle focused on Matthew 5:17-32, where Jesus teaches that true righteousness goes beyond external actions and is rooted in the heart. Jesus did not come to abolish the Law but to fulfill it, and in these verses, he highlighted that the moral law is about the inner condition rather than just outward obedience. Through examples of anger, lust and divorce, this passage illustrates how contempt leads to harm, lust objectifies others and marriage reflects God's covenant with His people. Jesus calls His followers to resolve conflicts quickly, avoid sin drastically and honor relationships selflessly, showing that the Good Life is found in loving God and others with a transformed heart.

Scripture

“Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth disappear, not the smallest letter, not the least stroke of a pen, will by any means disappear from the Law until everything is accomplished. Therefore anyone who sets aside one of the least of these commands and teaches others accordingly will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever practices and teaches these commands will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you that unless your righteousness surpasses that of the Pharisees and the teachers of the law, you will certainly not enter the kingdom of heaven.

“You have heard that it was said to the people long ago, ‘You shall not murder, and anyone who murders will be subject to judgment.’ But I tell you that anyone who is angry with a brother or sister will be subject to judgment. Again, anyone who says to a brother or sister, ‘Raca,’ is answerable to the court. And anyone who says, ‘You fool!’ will be in danger of the fire of hell. “Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to them; then come and offer your gift.

“Settle matters quickly with your adversary who is taking you to court. Do it while you are still together on the way, or your adversary may hand you over to the judge, and the judge may hand you over to the officer, and you may be thrown into prison. Truly I tell you, you will not get out until you have paid the last penny.

“You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall not commit adultery.’ But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye causes you to stumble, gouge it out and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. And if your right hand causes you to stumble, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to go into hell.

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“It has been said, ‘Anyone who divorces his wife must give her a certificate of divorce.’ But I tell you that anyone who divorces his wife, except for sexual immorality, makes her the victim of adultery, and anyone who marries a divorced woman commits adultery. Matthew 5:17-32 (NIV)

“Haven’t you read,” he replied, “that at the beginning the Creator ‘made them male and female,’ and said, ‘For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh’? So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate.” Matthew 19:4-6 (NIV)

“For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh.” This is a profound mystery—but I am talking about Christ and the church. Ephesians 5:31-32 (NIV)

Let’s Start

Can you think of a time when showing love to someone made a difference in their life or yours?

Gratitude and Prayer

How has God worked in your life since we were together?

Let’s Talk

1. What do you think Jesus means when He says He came to "fulfill" the Law?
2. Why do you think Jesus cares so much about what’s in our hearts, not just our actions?
3. How can anger hurt our relationships, even if we don’t act on it?
4. Why do you think Jesus compares lust to adultery? How can we guard our hearts?
5. Jesus talks about marriage and divorce. What does this teach us about commitment and love?
6. How can we apply Jesus’ teachings in our daily lives to live more like Him?

Let’s Act

What is one change you feel God is asking you to make after hearing this sermon?
