

The Sermon on the Mount Lesson 5
Matthew 5:17-26
By Russell Earl

Thesis: I want to show the important facts we can learn from this section of Christ's sermon.

Intro: 1. Throughout Christ's sermon on the mount we can important lessons for us still today.
2. Christ brings forth lessons concerning fulfillment, fuel that spurns our actions, forgiveness, and handling adversaries.

I. Concerning the law (v.17-20)

A. Fulfillment of the law (v.17-18)

1. Christ did as He said, He fulfilled the law (**Lk 24:44**)
2. The word "fulfilled" is found about 49 times in the N.T.

B. Concerning the lawbreaker (v.19-20)

1. Christ empathizes following the law for which a person is under. At that time, it was the Law of Moses, so Christ emphasizes following the Law of Moses.
2. If it had been the New Law, or the Law of Christ the command would have been the same, to obey the law, which ever you may be under.
3. The "*righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees*" – these individuals were constantly poor examples of faithfulness to God and to the law which they were under. They were more often hypocrites and judges rather than obedient, humble servants of God.
(**Mt 23:23a,25a,27a,29a – 4 times**)

II. Conditions of the heart (v.21-26)

A. Murder & hatred (v.21-22)

1. Every action or reaction has a fuel that causes an action to burst forth.
2. Therefore Christ encourages man to stop the anger before things progress.
3. Christ also tells us that the use of hateful language puts a person's soul in danger. It isn't so much the word used but the hatred or fuel behind the word(s). (**James 3:5-10**)

B. Forgiveness (v.23-24)

1. Christ teaches here to remove sin before worship (v.23); when a person's heart and mind is clear of sin, worship is pure before God.
2. **Hebrews 10:22**

C. Handling adversaries (v.25-26)

1. Such adversaries who bring a person before a judge can cause harm to the person and to the church as well.
2. We see from verses 23-26 we should do our best to keep all relationships in good standing and pleasing in the sight of God.

III. Application for us today.

A. How do you handle situations that can cause us to sin (v.21-22)

1. Do you handle things that could fuel you to do sinful actions?

B. Do you have a clear heart in worship? (v.23-24)

1. Do you strive to remove sin before worshipping God?

C. How do you handle those who are your adversaries?

1. Do you strive to handle things quickly so that you do not bring hardship upon yourself or upon the church?

- Conc:
1. Christ gives us a lot to consider and we should consider obeying Him.
 2. Are you ready to obey today?
 3. Full Invitation