

Jesus and our Anger-Damaged Relationships
Sermon Based Discussion (September 16, 2012)
Sermon Series: Sermon on the Mount

WARM UP

1. What's the angriest you've ever seen someone? If appropriate, describe what happened.

Jesus came not to do away with God's commands, but to fulfill them. And because Jesus fulfilled them, Jesus now calls His disciples to obey them in the strength that Jesus gives. In this session, Jesus begins with the 6th of the Ten Commandments: Do not murder. Though most people have not committed physical murder, Jesus teaches that probably all of us have committed murder in our hearts through anger.

INTO THE BIBLE (Matthew 5:17-26)

2. What does this passage reveal about how Jesus views harboring anger in our hearts?

UNDERSTANDING

3. Why does Jesus compare anger/hatred in one's heart to murder?

4. How does not dealing with anger damage relationships?

DIFFERENCE

5. What are some reasons people give to not reconcile with someone who is angry at them?

6. What would it be like to live without harboring any anger or hatred towards anyone, and to know that you have reconciled with others as far as it depends on you? Does this seem too good to be true?

APPLICATION

7. Do you know of anyone who has something against you personally? How can we pray for you to move towards reconciliation?

8. Enoch said in the sermon that God took the initiative to reconcile us to Him by leaving His Son on the altar. God did this by letting angry people murder His Son. How does this gospel truth empower us to seek reconciliation with God and with others?

FOR REFLECTION

Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. (Romans 12:17-18, ESV)