

FOLLOW ME

The Gospel of Matthew Part 1

WEEK 5 - JESUS FULFILLS THE LAW AND THE PROPHETS (SERMON ON THE MOUNT OVERVIEW)

OVERVIEW

Jesus' Sermon on the Mount could easily be its own 20-week sermon series. Within this collection of teachings are distilled some of the most direct and provocative instructions by our rabbi of how to live in a broken world. However, as we seek to cover the entire *book* of Matthew, we will be able to give only three sermons to it.

In this specific message, we will consider the Sermon on the Mount as a whole and seek to understand how Jesus saw his teaching as a fulfillment of the Hebrew Bible. We will touch on several teachings within the sermon to explore exactly what kind of life Jesus is inviting his followers to live.

"Don't misunderstand why I have come. I did not come to abolish the law of Moses or the writings of the prophets. No, I came to accomplish their purpose."

Matthew 5:17

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What resources do you turn to as you study the Bible?
2. What about the Sermon on the Mount is like a discipleship manual to you?
3. Read Matthew 5:21-22, Matthew 5:27-28, Matthew 5:43-44, and Matthew 5:17-19.
 - a. How does what Jesus says in each of these instances compare to the Old Testament law?
 - b. Why would people think Jesus was abolishing or contradicting the law?
4. Read Matthew 5:18. What is the difference between following the law and fulfilling its purpose?
5. If you could not read or write, like many of the original listeners of the Sermon on the Mount, what would you take away from the message? How would you remember what Jesus said?
6. In what way is the Sermon on the Mount an invitation for us to join Jesus in his mission to heal the world?
7. Barry issued the challenge below. If you have already completed it, share what God has been showing you so far. If you haven't completed it yet, pray part 3) with your group.

Challenge from Barry:

- 1) Read the whole Sermon on the Mount this week (Matthew 5-8).
- 2) Let God's Spirit bring one of Jesus' teachings to the forefront.
- 3) Spend the week praying and asking God what he wants you to hear through that teaching of Jesus.

RESOURCES

www.gracechurch.us/matthew

www.gracechurch.us/podcast