

LESSONS THIS QUARTER

- 1) 6 December 2015..... Matthew 03The Preaching of John the Baptist
- 2) 13 December..... Matthew 01 The Genealogy of Christ
- 3) 20 December..... Matthew 02 The Magi
- 4) 27 December..... Matthew 04 The Temptation of Jesus
- 5) 03 January 2016..... Matthew 05:1-16..... The Sermon on the Mount
- 6) 10 January..... Matthew 06..... Benevolence Giving
- 7) **17 January..... Matthew 05:17-45 Personal Relationships**
- 8) 24 January..... Matthew 07 Judging Others
- 9) 31 January..... Matthew 08..... More Miracles
- 10) 07 February..... Matthew 09-10 More Miracles
- 11) 14 February..... Matthew 11..... Tough Questions
- 12) 21 February..... Matthew 12..... Time to Pick a Fight
- 13) 28 February..... Matthew 13..... More Parables

INTRODUCTION

- We cycle back to wrap up Chapter 5 and look at personal relationships from Christ’s perspective.

Passage	Comments
5:17-20	<p>Taking the Law to Court</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good works don’t get us into Heaven, yet we must be doers of good works • Also, doing good works is scores zero points without righteousness. So how do we check for righteousness? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Answer: Our attitudes, desires, intents must be God-focused and not self-focused or even man-focused ♦ Consider the Roman Centurion of Acts 10; tho, he wasn’t yet saved, God responded to his righteous acts (He prayed and gave to God’s work humbly) • Jesus came to “FULFILL” the Law (lit., “fill to the brim”) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Jews obeyed what they perceived the law required, but no more. Obedience became an end to itself. ♦ Jesus advocated a freedom attained through a spirit of willing obedience, not feigned obedience
5:21-26	<p>Taking the High Road</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • vv21-22. From man’s perspective, do you go to jail for thinking about killing someone or for killing someone? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ From God’s view, doing or thinking of sin requires the same degree of justice – both must be paid for ♦ Jesus isn’t adding to the law’s requirement, He is clarifying the spirit of the law that the Jews missed • vv22-26. When a wrong to a person occurs, who needs to seek reconciliation first? <input type="checkbox"/> The perpetrator? Or <input type="checkbox"/> The Offended? Answer: He who is in the know is the one who needs to go <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ How important is reconciliation? Can it wait? ♦ Answer: God doesn’t want to see you in church or even want to receive your offering until you reconcile ♦ Off the wall question. Did the Apostle Paul ever apologize to the ones he imprisoned? ♦ But reconciliation can only be taken so far. “<i>If possible, so far as it depends on you, be at peace with all men.</i>” Rom 12:18 ♦ Our biggest ministry is “reconciliation”..... 2Cor 5:18
5:27-30	<p>Taking the Extreme</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jesus used “hyperboles” or extreme exaggerations to make a point. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ No one gets to Heaven by plucking out their eyes or cutting off body parts (including circumcision) ♦ But we should be willing to give up ANYTHING which keeps us away from God ♦ We need to discipline ourselves to control our emotions (Gen 4:6-7), to look straight ahead (Prov 4:25), and realize angels are watching us (Heb 1:14)


Passage	Comments
Other Hard, Extreme, or Radical Sayings of Jesus	<p>Matthew 18:8-9. Cut off hand or foot, or pluck out eye if need be</p> <p>Mark 19:21. Sell everything and give to the poor</p> <p>Luke 14:26. Hate mother & father, sons & daughters, brothers & sisters, your spouse & yourself</p> <p>Luke 14:33. Forsake everything</p> <p>John 6:54. Eat His flesh and drink His blood</p>
5:31-32	<p>Taking the Exception</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why does divorce cause the wife to commit adultery <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Often, the wife has to remarry just to survive ♦ Consider this. We can cause others to sin <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Satan ‘deceived’ Eve & Judas .. Gen 3:13; Lk 22:3 2. The rich ‘forced’ the poor to take on debt and sell their children into slavery Neh 5:1-6 ♦ BUT we are still culpable. Remember, God provides an escape route out of every sin 1Cor 10:13
5:33-37	<p>Taking the Oath</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are accountable for every thought, word, & action, so choose words carefully – and may they be few
5:38-42	<p>Taking the Abuse</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More “extreme” sayings from Jesus with little time to figure each and every one out. For example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ “Give to him who asks of you...” BUT Jesus did not give another free meal to those who asked (John 6:26); So, does asking need to have the right motive before we respond? Absolutely James 4:3
5:43-48	<p>Love Your Enemies to be Perfect Like God is</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Who is our enemy? Are all enemies out to harm us? • Consider this. During WW-II, Germans were our enemy, but not all Germans were wicked toward us • So, a wicked person is our enemy but not all enemies are wicked. Example: You may think your neighbor or an in-law is your enemy, but they may not be out to harm you. They just don’t like you, so they avoid you. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ It may be time to reconcile with them • But how should we treat enemies who are wicked? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ We need to avoid them, yet pray for them; Like God, we may need to withhold good things from them because of their wicked behavior Jer 5:25

CONCLUSION / APPLICATIONS

- We only scratched the surface on these topics. God’s great works are studied by those who delight in them [Ps 111:2](#)
- NEXT WEEK: Matthew 07.** “Do not judge lest you be judged?” Is this an absolute or are there exceptions? Is this an unconditional or a conditional command? What is the context of this passage?

TOP 4 WISHES

- 1) To earn money without working.
- 2) To be smart without studying.
- 3) To love without being hurt.
- 4) To eat without getting fat.



Man’s wisdom takes the path of least resistance.
God’s wisdom involves blood, sweat, and tears ([Ecc 7:4](#))