



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FOR MATTHEW 5:21-26

1. In what way(s) did God speak to you today through His Spirit and His Word?
2. When Jesus teaches us that commandments are not just about the letter of the law but also the spirit of the law, what does He mean?
3. What are ways we may be tempted like the Pharisees to only obey the commandments from an external religious perspective? Why are we so often drawn to minimal obedience rather than to pursuing whole-hearted faithfulness?
4. Why do you think anger/murder is the first attitude Jesus chose to address when explaining Kingdom living? What struggles, if any, have you had with this temptation?
5. When is anger “righteous” and when is anger “unrighteous?” In which category do you think your anger is most usually located?
6. Why is entertaining and escalating unrighteous anger in our attitudes toward someone a failure to love them well?
7. Why is unrighteous anger so dangerous? What have you done, in the power of the Spirit, to put away unrighteous anger in your heart and life?
8. When was a time you were certain you had contributed to someone else being angry? What did you do to pursue reconciliation with this person?
9. Why is our responsibility to pursue reconciliation with others not only necessary but also urgent?
10. Considering Matthew 5:21-26, what needs to be addressed in your life this week so that you can love others well with both your actions and your attitudes? Before returning to worship next Sunday, with whom do you need to pursue reconciliation?