

MATTHEW

Chapter 5 Bible Study

The Sermon on the Mount

¹ One day as he saw the crowds gathering, Jesus went up on the mountainside and sat down. His disciples gathered around him, ² and he began to teach them.

The Beatitudes

³ “God blesses those who are poor and realize their need for him, for the Kingdom of Heaven is theirs.

⁴ God blesses those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

⁵ God blesses those who are humble, for they will inherit the whole earth.

⁶ God blesses those who hunger and thirst for justice, for they will be satisfied.

⁷ God blesses those who are merciful, for they will be shown mercy.

⁸ God blesses those whose hearts are pure, for they will see God.

⁹ God blesses those who work for peace, for they will be called the children of God.

¹⁰ God blesses those who are persecuted for doing right, for the Kingdom of Heaven is theirs.

¹¹ “God blesses you when people mock you and persecute you and lie about you and say all sorts of evil things against you because you are my followers. ¹² Be happy about it! Be very glad! For a great reward awaits you in heaven. And remember, the ancient prophets were persecuted in the same way.

1. Who was present when Jesus taught the Sermon on the Mount? (V1) _____

2. In the Beatitudes, how many times did Jesus say “God Blesses ...”, and how were they described? (V3-11) _____

3. How did Jesus say we should respond when people are mean to us because we follow Jesus? (V11) _____

Teaching about Salt and Light

¹³ “You are the salt of the earth. But what good is salt if it has lost its flavor? Can you make it salty again? It will be thrown out and trampled underfoot as worthless.

¹⁴ “You are the light of the world—like a city on a hilltop that cannot be hidden. ¹⁵ No one lights a lamp and then puts it under a basket. Instead, a lamp is placed on a stand, where it gives light to everyone in the house. ¹⁶ In the same way, let your good deeds shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father.

4. Jesus talked about how we should be salt and light in this world. How did Jesus say we should let our light shine? (V14-16) _____

***Note:** When Jesus calls us the “salt of the earth”, he is comparing us to salt, in that salt makes food taste good. We also should impact the people around us in a positive way, giving them a “good taste in their mouths”, from just being around us. We do this by being a light in the world (V14), from doing good deeds that come from a loving heart and pure motives. This is how we “bear fruit” for Christ.*

Teaching about the Law

¹⁷ “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.

¹⁸ I tell you the truth, until heaven and earth disappear, not even the smallest detail of God’s law will disappear until its purpose is achieved. ¹⁹ So if you ignore the least commandment and teach others to do the same, you will be called the least in the Kingdom of Heaven. But anyone who obeys God’s laws and teaches them will be called great in the Kingdom of Heaven.

²⁰ “But I warn you—unless your righteousness is better than the righteousness of the teachers of religious law and the Pharisees, you will never enter the Kingdom of Heaven!

5. Did Jesus come to abolish (eliminate) the Law of Moses, or what the prophets wrote about in the Old Testament? If no, then what did Jesus come to do regarding them? (V17) _____

Note: *The law was given to us to point out our sins, and our need for a Savior. Because Jesus obeyed the law perfectly it made Him the perfect “Holy and blameless” sacrifice for our sins. He met all of God’s requirements (in the law), and then paid the price for all who “did not meet all the requirements (us sinners)”. Then He died for our sins so that we could be forgiven, and spend eternity with Him.*

6. What happens if we ignore the commandments of God, and teach others to do the same? Also, what will happen if we obey God’s law and teach others to do the same? (V19) _____

Teaching about Anger

²¹ “You have heard that our ancestors were told, ‘You must not murder. If you commit murder, you are subject to judgment.’ ²² But I say, if you are even angry with someone, you are subject to judgment! If you call someone an idiot, you are in danger of being brought before the court. And if you curse someone, you are in danger of the fires of hell. ²³ “So if you are presenting a sacrifice at the altar in the Temple and you suddenly remember that someone has something against you, ²⁴ leave your sacrifice there at the altar. Go and be reconciled to that person. Then come and offer your sacrifice to God.

²⁵ “When you are on the way to court with your adversary, settle your differences quickly. Otherwise, your accuser may hand you over to the judge, who will hand you over to an officer, and you will be thrown into prison. ²⁶ And if that happens, you surely won’t be free again until you have paid the last penny.

7. What three behaviors did Jesus tell us not to have, and what were their consequences? (V21) _____

8. If you are presenting a sacrifice to God, in any form (could be giving your time, your talent, your money, ETC), and you remember that someone has something against you. What should you do? (V23,24) _____

9. One day we will stand before God, and will be accountable for our actions on earth. We do not know when our last day on this earth will be. How soon should we try to work things out with people so that we can have reconciliation? (V25)

Teaching about Adultery

²⁷ “You have heard the commandment that says, ‘You must not commit adultery.’

²⁸ But I say, anyone who even looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart. ²⁹ So if your eye—even your good eye—causes you to lust, gouge it out and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. ³⁰ And if your hand—even your stronger hand—causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell.

Teaching about Divorce

³¹ “You have heard the law that says, ‘A man can divorce his wife by merely giving her a written notice of divorce.’ ³² But I say that a man who divorces his wife, unless she has been unfaithful, causes her to commit adultery. And anyone who marries a divorced woman also commits adultery.

Teaching about Vows

³³ “You have also heard that our ancestors were told, ‘You must not break your vows; you must carry out the vows you make to the LORD.’ ³⁴ But I say, do not make any vows! Do not say, ‘By heaven!’ because heaven is God’s throne. ³⁵ And do not say, ‘By the earth!’ because the earth is his footstool. And do not say, ‘By Jerusalem!’ for Jerusalem is the city of the great King. ³⁶ Do not even say, ‘By my head!’ for you can’t turn one hair white or black. ³⁷ Just say a simple, ‘Yes, I will,’ or ‘No, I won’t.’ Anything beyond this is from the evil one.

Teaching about Revenge

³⁸ “You have heard the law that says the punishment must match the injury: ‘An eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth.’ ³⁹ But I say, do not resist an evil person! If someone slaps you on the right cheek, offer the other cheek also. ⁴⁰ If you are sued in court and your shirt is taken from you, give your coat, too. ⁴¹ If a soldier demands that you carry his gear for a mile, carry it two miles. ⁴² Give to those who ask, and don’t turn away from those who want to borrow.

Teaching about Love for Enemies

⁴³ “You have heard the law that says, ‘Love your neighbor’ and hate your enemy. ⁴⁴ But I say, love your enemies! Pray for those who persecute you! ⁴⁵ In that way, you will be acting as true children of your Father in heaven. For he gives his sunlight to both the evil and the good, and he sends rain on the just and the unjust alike. ⁴⁶ If you love only those who love you, what reward is there for that? Even corrupt tax collectors do that much. ⁴⁷ If you are kind only to your friends’ how are you different from anyone else? Even pagans do that. ⁴⁸ But you are to be perfect, even as your Father in heaven is perfect.

10. Jesus was teaching that committing the act of adultery is sin, but then He goes even further to say that sin can be committed by someone without acting it out. He was referring to lust, which means that a person has a “desire” to cheat on their spouse. Where does this desire start? (V27,28) _____

11. Sin happens because we are not perfect. But Jesus is saying that if there is something in our life that is causing us to “excuse” our sinful actions that we need to do what (to our eyes, or our hands, or whatever it is that is causing us to sin)? (V29,30) _____

12. What does Jesus call it when a person divorces their spouse, other than for the reason of marital unfaithfulness? And are the people who are getting a divorce for reasons other than marital unfaithfulness, free to marry with God’s blessings? (V31,32) _____

13. When giving our word to people, it is so important that people can trust us. Some people who are not trustworthy will try to swear by something so that the person hearing them will know it’s true (Example: I swear on my Mother). What does Jesus want us to say instead of swearing? And where is all such swearing from? (V34-37) _____

14. Jesus goes on to teach about the proper way to deal with people who hurt us. Instead of doing the natural thing, which is to “get revenge”, how does Jesus tell us to respond? (V38-42) _____

15. How does Jesus say we should treat our enemies (people who dislike or hate us)? (43-45) _____

16. Jesus then tells us the ultimate goal regarding how we should “strive” to act towards others. What standard did He set? (V48) _____

Reflection/Application: What is the one thing that really stood out to you, and how can you apply it to your life? _____

Prayer Guide: Based upon the **second** part of the Lord’s Prayer (*May Your will be done on earth, as it is in heaven*), Pray for God’s will (His plan and His ways) to be done in your life, and in the life of those around you.

Answer Key

1. A crowd of people that were gathering, and Jesus’s Disciples.
2. Nine times. God Blesses ... 1) the poor and needy for Him, 2) those who mourn, 3) the humble, 4) those who hunger and thirst for justice, 5) the merciful, 6) the pure in heart, 7) peacemakers, 8) those persecuted for doing right, 9) those who are mocked, persecuted, lied about, and talked evil about because they follow Jesus.
3. Jesus said that we should be happy and very glad about it, because we will be rewarded in heaven later.
4. Jesus said that we should let our light shine by doing good deeds for all to see.
5. No, Jesus did not come to abolish the law or the prophets; He came to fulfill their purpose.
6. If we ignore God’s commands and teach others to do the same we will be called ‘the least’ in the Kingdom of Heaven. If we obey God and teach others to obey, we will be called “great” in the Kingdom of God.
7. Angry with someone = judgment. Calling people idiots = danger of being taken to court. Cursing someone = danger of fires of hell.
8. You should go and be reconciled (to make friendly again), with that person, then come and offer your sacrifice to God.
9. Settle your differences quickly, before you go to court (stand before God).
10. In your heart.
11. Cut it off and throw it away.
12. It’s called adultery, and the couple who remarries in that situation, are still committing adultery.
13. Say “Yes, I will,” or “No, I won’t”. Everything else is from the evil one (Satan).
14. If they slap you on one cheek, offer the other. If your shirt is taken, offer your coat too. If a soldier demands you to carry his gear for a mile, go two. Give to those who ask, and loan to those who want to borrow.
15. Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.
16. Be perfect, as God is perfect.