

Before we dive in...

Matthew 5:21-26

(The Values of the Kingdom)

READ MATTHEW 22:36-40

Dr. Martin Lloyd Jones says “the Sermon on the Mount is nothing but a great and grand and perfect elaboration of what our Lord called His ‘new commandment’ (i.e. the Great Commandment).”

- Read **Matt 5:17**. Then read **Matthew 22:36-40**. Note that Jesus has come not to get rid of the Law & Prophets (Old Testament) but to fulfill it. The Great Commandment to love God and love others (see **Matt 22:40**) is a summary of the Law & Prophets. As we journey through the SotM, keep in mind that Jesus is taking Old Testament teachings and going deeper with them (fulfilling them).
- **Read 21**. The phrase/idea “you have heard it said” is repeated six times (**v21, 27, 31, 33, 38, 43**). This marks a section of Scripture where Jesus takes OT teachings or common Jewish idioms and pushes us to live it out in a deeper way. Jesus is concerned not just with our behaviour, but our heart as well.
- Where does the command to not murder come from? Is it still applicable today?
- **Read v21-22**. Describe the connection between murder and anger.
- **Read 23-24**. What is the connection between anger and reconciliation? How should this shape the way we approach others when we have wronged them?
- Dr. Martin Lloyd Jones notes the following, “The matter is so vital that you must even interrupt your prayer, you must, as it were, even keep God waiting. Go and put it right, He says; you cannot be right with God until you put yourself right with man.” What do you think about this approach?
- Where do you see anger in your life? Does it lead to sin? How does this passage challenge us to love God and love others? Share together and pray for one another.