



Impact Your World

Jesus and the Sermon on the Mount

“Therefore everyone who hears these words of Mine and acts on them, may be compared to a wise man who built his house on the rock.”

— Matthew 7:24 —

LESSON FOUR

IMPACT YOUR WORLD Question Everything You've Heard

DISCUSSION QUESTION

“What were some of the hard and fast rules you heard from church when you were growing up?”

LESSON

Impact Your World: Question Everything You've Heard

- “Guard your heart above all else, for it determines the course of your life.” – Proverbs 4:23
- “For You do not delight in sacrifice, otherwise I would give it; You are not pleased with burnt offering. The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and a contrite heart, O God, You will not despise.” – Psalm 51:16-17
- “But the Lord said to Samuel, ‘Do not look at his appearance or at the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for God sees not as man sees, for man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.’” – 1 Samuel 16:7
- Mark 7:1-23

What does Jesus really mean when He says “...but I say to you...”?

1. Jesus is not contradicting the Old Testament, but rather clarifying it.
2. Jesus is condemning the man-made legalistic structure the Pharisees placed on the Law.
3. Jesus is stripping away the layers of misinterpretation to which the Jews had become accustomed.
4. Jesus is bringing the intent of the Law – His Word – back to its purest form.

It's what is *inside* that matters to God.

We all know this to be true...before we speak, before we act.

We *know* it.

Now the question is:

Are we going to get to work on the inside?



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Matthew 5:21-48

21 “You have heard that the ancients were told, ‘You shall not commit murder’ and ‘Whoever commits murder shall be liable to the court.’

22 But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother shall be guilty before the court; and whoever says to his brother, ‘You good-for-nothing,’ shall be guilty before the supreme court; and whoever says, ‘You fool,’ shall be guilty enough to go into the fiery hell.

23 Therefore if you are presenting your offering at the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you,

24 leave your offering there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother, and then come and present your offering.

25 Make friends quickly with your opponent at law while you are with him on the way, so that your opponent may not hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the officer, and you be thrown into prison.

26 Truly I say to you, you will not come out of there until you have paid up the last cent.

27 “You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall not commit adultery’;

28 but I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

29 If your right eye makes you stumble, tear it out and throw it from you; for it is better for you to lose one of the parts of your body, than for your whole body to be thrown into hell.

30 If your right hand makes you stumble, cut it off and throw it from you; for it is better for you to lose one of the parts of your body, than for your whole body to go into hell.

31 “It was said, ‘Whoever sends his wife away, let him give her a certificate of divorce’;

32 but I say to you that everyone who divorces his wife, except for the reason of unchastity, makes her commit adultery; and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

33 “Again, you have heard that the ancients were told, ‘You shall not make false vows, but shall fulfill your vows to the Lord.’

34 But I say to you, make no oath at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God,

35 or by the earth, for it is the footstool of His feet, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King.

36 Nor shall you make an oath by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black.



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37 But let your statement be, 'Yes, yes' or 'No, no'; anything beyond these is of evil.

38 "You have heard that it was said, 'An eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth.'

39 But I say to you, do not resist an evil person; but whoever slaps you on your right cheek, turn the other to him also.

40 If anyone wants to sue you and take your shirt, let him have your coat also.

41 Whoever forces you to go one mile, go with him two.

42 Give to him who asks of you, and do not turn away from him who wants to borrow from you.

43 "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.'

44 But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you,

45 so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven; for He causes His sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous.

46 For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same?

47 If you greet only your brothers, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same?

48 Therefore you are to be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect.