

THE PLAN

29. The Sermon (Matthew 5) March 27, 2022

Story Coordinates (Matthew 4:25-5:2)

People (Who is the story about?)

Place (Where is their home?)

Presence (How can they meet with God?)

Purpose (What did God tell them to do?)

The Story (Matthew 5)

- The Jews believed their mission was to zealously (_____) defend the Law from Gentiles and _____. (1 Maccabees 2:23-28)
- Jesus reminded them that their mission was to _____ humanity, not to _____ them. (5:13-16, Isaiah 60:3)
- Jesus wasn't telling them to _____ the Law—he was calling them to fulfill the _____ of the Law. (5:17-20; 1 Macc. 2:39-41)

- Fulfilling the Law means:
 - Seeking _____ instead of violence. (5:21-24)
 - Choosing _____ instead of vengeance. (5:38-42)
 - _____ everyone God _____—including enemies. (5:43-48)
- Jesus warned them that following his teachings would make the difference between _____ and _____ . (7:24-27)

The Morals

- The purpose of God's people is to _____ God's radical love to the _____.
- Radical love is not _____--it's the only way to _____ his kingdom.
- Radical love is not _____--Jesus makes it _____ for each one of us.

Small Group Questions

1. Getting Started:

- What did you find most interesting about the sermon this week? The most helpful, eye-opening, or troubling?

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2. Into the Bible (Romans 12:9-21)

- What does this passage have in common with the passages we covered in the sermon?

- In verse 11 Paul tells his readers to “never be lacking in zeal.” Based on this passage, how is Paul’s view of zeal different from the Maccabees? (Find and reread 1 Maccabees 2:23-28 on the internet)

- What is the hardest command in v. 14-19?

- Is verse 21 possible without Jesus? Why or why not?

3. Going Deeper

- Is it easy or hard to believe that verse 21 is possible? Why is that?

- Where are you most tempted to behave like the Maccabees today?

- What does it look like for us to build the kingdom the way Jesus taught us to? What are the challenges? What are the joys?

4. Prayer

- Pray for each other as you face your own challenges to live out the Sermon on the Mount in your own life.