

Kingdom Culture

sermon on the mount series

May 28

PERSONAL REFLECTION OR GROUP DISCUSSION

MATTHEW 5:17-20

Teaching about the Law

Matthew 5:17-20

For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth disappear, not the smallest letter, not the least stroke of a pen, will by any means disappear from the Law until everything is accomplished. "Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. Therefore anyone who sets aside one of the least of these commands and teaches others accordingly will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever practices and teaches these commands will be called great in the kingdom of heaven.

- Which is more important The Old Testament or the New Testament?
- Which Testament do you read more often - Old or New? Why?
- In what way does the New Testament act as a key to understanding the Old?
- Can you list three ways in which Jesus fulfils the Old Testament?
- Can you identify an Old Testament law, still applicable today that many Christians ignore?

Discuss

- Which Old Testament practices have been superseded in the new covenant, but whose principles should still be upheld? Try to list three. E.g. Passover superseded by Lord's Supper
- What six examples does Jesus give throughout the rest of this chapter, as an explanation of our reading for today?

Note his focus on the motive behind the act, is as important as the act itself.

Going deeper

Read Exodus 20:1-17

What areas of our society would be dramatically improved if people practised these commands?