



# Kingdom Culture

sermon on the mount series

July 16th

PERSONAL REFLECTION OR GROUP DISCUSSION

MATTHEW 5:38-42

## **Retaliation**

Read the passage and reflect or discuss some of the questions below

1. Discuss: "This passage is an open invitation to let yourself be abused by others, and empowers perpetrators to continue to carry on their abusive ways. Not holding people accountable, is not helpful for you or them."

2. When is it right to be a whistle blower?

3. Leviticus 24:19-21 - The eye for an eye rule – was originally written to a somewhat primitive Israelite society so that retribution would not escalate with each reprisal. The intent of Old Testament was proportional justice. Fairness as opposed to doubling down with worsening revenge.

In what way is Jesus going deeper than this primer-faci rule?

4. How is Leviticus 19:18 an explanation of the spirit of Jesus' teaching?

5. What is the difference between societal justice for an offender and personal forgiveness of someone who wrongs you?

6. "Going the extra mile" is a well-known phrase meaning doing more than that which is required of you. Here it refers to a Roman soldier who could compel someone to carry his pack for one mile.

What is the impact of going the extra mile with people these days? How might it amplify our witness?

7. Read Romans 12:17-19. Name two things that particularly strike you as helpful in terms of action or attitude?

In light of the Romans passage – does anyone ever really get away with anything?