

# CAIN AND ABEL APPLIED

Proclamation Life Groups; Matthew 5:21-26; Week of Sunday, March 5, 2017; Steve Thiel

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**Sermon Theme: Entrance into the Kingdom of Heaven requires perfect love for the brethren. Our sin and need for salvation is seen in our anger that leads to hateful actions, but by faith in Christ, the Spirit of God transforms us into people who love God, love others, and are reconciled in our relationships.**

## **I. COMMAND TO NOT MURDER – (Matthew 5:21-22)**

- A. In what ways does Matthew set up his gospel to show that Jesus is “*the greater than Moses*”?
- B. How would the Pharisees have interpreted the commandment, “Thou shall not murder.”
- C. How do you interpret the commandment, “Thou shall not murder.”

## **II. REMINDER TO NOT MURDER – (Genesis 4:1-10 and Matthew 5:23-26)**

- A. What connections do you make between Matthew 5:23-26 and Genesis 4:1-10?
- B. What progression do you see in Cain’s disobedience to God’s Word and his sin?
- C. What contrasts do you see between Cain and the brother in Jesus’ illustration?
- D. In Matthew 5:23-24, what details highlight the urgency for reconciliation to take place?
- E. In what ways would you like to grow in prioritizing the urgency of reconciliation?

## **III. APPLICATION TO NOT MURDER – (Application)**

- A. As you think of your own life, how can you tell when you are angry with someone?
- B. What practical things can you do in order to see sin more clearly in your life?
- C. What practical things can you do to grow in walking in righteousness?
- D. Where do you think the greatest joy is found, in forgiveness or in walking in obedience?