

# **SERMON ON THE MOUNT – PART 1**

Life Group; Week of Sunday, October 9, 2022; Matthew 5:17-6:18; Steve Thiel

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**Sermon Theme: Christ declares that entrance into the kingdom requires perfect obedience to the Law. This not only highlights continuity between Moses and Christ, but it demonstrates that the Law is a tutor that leads us to faith in Christ, who fulfills the Law's demand of perfect righteousness!**

## **I. Righteousness Required – Read Matthew 5:17-48**

- A. In Matthew 5:17, what do you think it means for Jesus to fulfill the Law and the Prophets? How does knowing that Jesus fulfills the Old Testament change the way that you read it?
- B. What do you think Jesus means in Matthew 5:20? What do you think Jesus is saying about the Scribes and the Pharisees? What is Jesus saying about the righteousness required for heaven?
- C. As you read Matthew 5:21-48, how does Jesus fulfill the Law in His teaching? Which of the categories is most difficult to keep in your own life?
- D. In Matthew 5:48, Jesus declares that all His disciples must be perfect. How is it that we could possibly obtain the perfection (the righteousness) required by the Lord Jesus?
- E. By faith in Christ, and the power of the Spirit, these verses also highlight how our lives should change in the areas of anger, lust, faithfulness, honesty, integrity, and love. As you think about the year, what area would you like to focus on and see God cause the most change?

## **II. Righteousness Before God – Read Matthew 6:1-18**

- A. Verse 1 tells us the main idea for this entire section. How would you describe the theme that Jesus is addressing? How is it related to the examples of giving, prayer, and fasting?
- B. How often are you driven by what others think of you? Where does fear of man typically manifest itself in your own heart and life?
- C. Why do Christians struggle to pray? How should God's delight in the prayers of His people impact our desire to pray fervently? How is the Lord's Prayer instructive in what we pray for?
- D. Jesus talks a lot about our heavenly Father seeing what we do in secret and promising to reward us. How do we fight against the praise of people and strive to live for the praise of God? Why is God Himself the best reward you could ever want?
- E. What things can you do to grow in giving, fasting, and prayer for the glory of God? What specific actions could you take to make sure that God gets all the glory for the good things that you go? How will this help protect your heart from living for the praise of people?