

Applying God's Word

This Week's Passage: Matthew 5:21-26

Corresponding Sermon from King's Church: "The Truth About Anger"

Opening Discussion

1. Read this week's passage together.
2. Share *your* immediate observations from this text. Was there anything shared in Sunday's sermon that stuck out to *you*?
3. In what ways were you able to see *yourself* in the sermon and in the text?

Going Deeper

1. Because of the seriousness of anger revealed in our passage, discuss together as a group how we can practically fight against it in our lives. Keep in mind that unrighteous anger is inherently a result of disordered love (loving other things more than the Lord). This means to fight anger we must do some reordering in our hearts. Using the steps below as a guide, work through some specific examples of what it looks like to reorder our hearts. Remember that Paul tells us in Ephesians there is always a "putting off" of sin and a "putting on" of righteousness involved in true repentance.

Fighting Anger by Putting Your Loves in Order

Step 1. Identify your disordered love: When you are being tempted toward the sin of anger, identify what it is that you are choosing to love more than God in that moment.

Step 2. Repent of that sin: Confess your idolatry to the Lord as sin and accept his free and total forgiveness. Ask him for the grace to turn from that sin and toward obedience.

Step 3. Put your loves in proper order: Recognize that you are called to love God first (which means obedience) and love others (like Christ). From your knowledge of the Word, what does that look when fighting specific temptations to anger?

