

“Upstream - The Sermon on the Mount”

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Jesus talks about the Old Testament Law.

- Matthew 5.17-20
- Jesus did not come to _____ of the law but to _____ the law.

How does He fulfill the law?

- Hebrews 10.1, Romans 10.4
- The laws, promises, and prophecies of the Old Testament were all _____ Jesus and leading up to his life.
- Jesus brought to life what the law pointed towards but ultimately couldn't give us – a _____ with God.

How do we “exceed the righteousness of the Pharisees”?

- Matthew 5.20
- Two ways: both in how we get it and how we express it

How we earn it—it's not about the numbers!

- Romans 10.4
- We don't earn our righteousness—our right standing before God—because of _____, we receive it as a gift because of what Christ _____.

How we express it.

- Ezekiel 36.26-27
- As God's Spirit comes to live in us and empowers us to live out the _____ of the law and not just comply with the _____ of the law.
- Jesus raises the bar in terms of our behavior—sometimes it is _____ to live out the intention of the law than to just live out the letter of the law.

Anger is like murder? Huh? What's the big deal?

- Matthew 5.21-22

Why does Jesus see this as a topic worth discussing?

- _____ matter in the Kingdom, and _____ destroys the relationships we're called to have. (Matthew 5:3-16)
- Jesus takes anger seriously because of where _____ . (Ephesians 4.26)

So what do we do when we're in broken relationships?

- Matthew 5.23-26
- If we are in a broken relationship we need to take _____ to seek reconciliation.
- We need to be willing to make the first move towards reconciliation _____ we're at fault. (Matthew 18.15-16)

Talk it over...with your friends, family, or Growth Group

Talking through the ideas presented in Sunday's message helps us apply God's word to our individual lives. These questions are designed to help you put His words into action in your life this week.

- Why do you think Jesus sets the bar so high when it comes to our anger? Can we actually live out what He asks us to do? How do His words here line up with His experiences of anger (like when He turned over tables in the Temple) and what the Bible says about anger in other passages?
- What examples come to mind for you of people living out the letter of the law but not the intention or spirit of the law? What examples come to mind from your own life?
- Why do you think God had you here today? What do you need to do as a result of what you've experienced here today?
- During this series we're asking you to engage in personal study of this text. So far, how's it going? Have you been able to read the text and study it for yourself? If not, spend some time this week on our website www.rcctulsa.org looking at the different resources that we have provided and take steps to get involved with this study on your own.
- Read over the various Scriptures presented in this week's sermon and write out some thoughts about what God might be teaching you. (Note: these might be different than the ideas presented in the sermon).
- This week spend some time each day reading Matthew 5:27-37. That's the passage that we'll discuss in the sermon next Sunday. Prayerfully study it for yourself, and then join us for an in depth study of this passage Wednesday night at 6:30 so that when you come the sermon can feel more like a conversation than a monologue.

