

## STUDY QUESTIONS CONT'D

9. In Matthew 5:24 it says to "leave your gift there before the altar..." What does that mean?
10. Commit this week to seeking those out who have wronged you or you have wrong. Commit to giving forgiveness or seeking forgiveness.

## WHAT IS THE GOSPEL?

The word "gospel" means "good news." The Gospel, or good news, of Jesus Christ is that He did what no one could ever do. You see, God loves us, but ever since Adam and Eve sinned against God, every human being has sinned and therefore cannot come into God's presence because He is holy and perfect. As much as we try, we cannot bridge the gap to God because of our sinful nature. We can never be good enough to reach God. Good works, religion, philosophy and morality all fall short of God's perfection.

God loves us so much that He sent His Own Son, Jesus Christ, to bridge the gap (John 3:16). Jesus did what no one else could ever do, because He is both God and human, born to Mary. He took upon Himself the punishment we deserve, dying on the cross in our place. Now, through a relationship with Jesus Christ, we can come before a holy God. That is the good news! We enter a relationship with Jesus by placing our faith and trust in Him and Him alone for our salvation. Do you have a relationship with Jesus Christ?

The good news doesn't end there. Not only can we have eternal life through Jesus, but we also now can live without being condemned because of sin. Jesus paid the price for our sins, and He lives within those who have placed their trust in Him. In Christ, not only have we secured our future in eternity with God, but we have the Holy Spirit living in us to help us today to live for Christ. For more information on how to know God, check our website at [www.gbcmilescity.com](http://www.gbcmilescity.com).



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Small Group Study Guide  
Pastor Jerry Coon – June 10, 2018

## SERMON NOTES

### MAKING RELATIONSHIPS WORK Matthew 5:21-24

Jesus says, take charge of your inner life and your outer actions will take care of themselves.

*"You have heard that it was said to those of old, 'You shall not murder, and whoever murders will be in danger of the judgment.'<sup>22</sup> But I say to you that whoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment. And whoever says to his brother, 'Raca!' shall be in danger of the council. But whoever says, 'You fool!' shall be in danger of hell fire.<sup>23</sup> Therefore if you bring your gift to the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you,<sup>24</sup> leave your gift there before the altar, and go your way. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift. (Matt. 5:21-24)*

Reasons why people get angry and develop feelings against others.

- To seek revenge and to hurt.
- To show hurt, resentment and bitterness.
- To express disagreement and displeasure.
- To give warning.

## SERMON NOTES

*(Matt. 6:12) And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.*

*(Matt. 6:14-15) "For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. <sup>15</sup> But if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.*

*(1 Jn. 4:20-21) If someone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen, how can he love God whom he has not seen? <sup>21</sup> And this commandment we have from Him: that he who loves God must love his brother also.*

What Jesus gives us for interpersonal relationships is "nip problems in the bud" (v. 23-24)

Note Jesus tell us "Don't let them fester, deal with them at once."

Do bring that important relationship to the altar. (vs. 24)

## STUDY QUESTIONS

1. How should Matthew 5:21-24 apply to our lives?
2. What are some ways that you have been hurt by people in the past?
3. What are some ways you have hurt people?
4. What verses says "that we should for give people who have wrong us?"
5. Why should we forgive others?
6. Read 1<sup>st</sup> John 4:20-21. What do these verses tell us to do?
7. When dealing with interpersonal relationship tension. How does Christ want us to respond?
8. How often do you allow tension and circumstances dictate your love for others?