

Going deeper

Matthew's gospel contains five blocks of Jesus's teaching mirroring the five books of Moses (the Pentateuch). The first block, 'the Sermon on the Mount' (Matthew 5-7) begins with a list of beatitudes. The last block (Matthew 23-25) begins with a list of woes.

Read Matthew 23:1-15, 25-28

5. How does the introduction to this block of teaching mirror the introduction to the sermon on the mount? (cf. 5:1-2 and 23:1)
6. Why is it important to respect even the people that Jesus criticises? (23:2-3)
7. How does Jesus describe the effect of their teaching on others? (see vs. 4, 13, 15; cf. 11:28-30)
8. What attitude does Jesus criticise in verses 3-12 and how are we, as Christians, to be different?
9. Why might the Teachers of the Law and Pharisees look good to people, but not to God? (cf. 1 Samuel 16:7)

Now do the applying it to our lives questions...



Week Beginning Sunday 1st March 2020

Growth Team News

Growth Teams are back after the half-term break. We are in the period of Lent. Why not consider attending a Growth Team as something to take up for Lent?

Sunday's sermons over the last two weeks have looked at the introduction to the Sermon on the Mount. This week we get into the main section of the sermon.

Mon.	8:00pm	<i>Edith Road</i>	07710 638614
Wed.	10:15am	<i>Goodwin Road</i>	
		<i>Contact Vanessa on</i>	01843 592857
	2:30pm	<i>Dane Park Road</i>	
			01843 583305
Thu.	9:30am	<i>The Vicarage</i>	
		<i>Contact: Willow</i>	01843 607157
		<i>or Audrey</i>	01843 592160
	7:30pm	<i>Kings Avenue</i>	01843 592562



**Growing in Christ
to glorify God
and enjoy Him forever.**

Flourishing Righteousness

Matthew 5:17-26 (page 969)

Space to take notes on the talk

❖ Why do people reject righteousness?

i. _____

ii. _____

iii. _____

❖ Jesus's life: _____

i. _____

ii. _____

iii. _____

❖ What kind of righteousness does Jesus teach?

i. _____

ii. _____

iii. _____

Getting to know each other

❖ Who is the most 'righteous person' you have come across?

Responding to the talk

1. What do you think was the key message of this Sunday's talk?
2. Read Matthew 5:17-19
 - a. How does Jesus emphasise the continuing importance of the Old Testament ('Law and Prophets')?
 - b. How does Jesus fulfil the Old Testament? (cf. 1:22-23; 2:5-6, 15, 17-18, 23; 3:15; 4:14-16 and 5:21-22,27-28, 31-32, 33-34, 38-39, 43-44).
 - c. How are we as His followers to treat the old Testament?
3. Read Matthew 5:20
 - a. How important does Jesus say living 'a righteous life' is? (5:6,20,48; 7:24-27)
 - b. Why wasn't the Pharisees and teachers of the Law version of righteousness good enough? (cf. 15:10-20)
4. Read Matthew 5:21-26
 - a. Is Jesus abolishing the Law, 'Do not murder'? How is he interpreting it?
 - b. What is so shocking about the end of verse 22? What point is Jesus making?
 - c. What general point is Jesus making with the two examples in verses 23-26?

You may like to do the 'Going Deeper' questions over the page.

Applying it to our lives

10. How do we answer people that say that trying to follow Christian teaching is 'bad for you'?
11. What steps might we need to make to deal with our anger or a broken relationship?