

HARMONY IN THE HOME: THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT (Part 2)

Introduction

1. Two ways to live: put God's authority & will over man, or put man's desires over God
 - a. Constant battle has impact on the individual, the church, & the family
2. Christ introduced his new kingdom in the Sermon on the Mount (Matt. 5-7)
 - a. Kingdom of God (of heaven, of Christ): rule for our salvation, realm of fellowship with God
3. **Matt. 5** Conduct in the kingdom
 - a. Be a good example
 - b. Avoid sinful expressions of anger
 - c. How to settle conflicts
 - d. Avoid sinful sexual lust
 - e. Avoid fornication & divorce

I. Conduct in the Kingdom

A. Be a Good Example

1. **Matt. 5:13-16** As salt & light
2. Salt: small but powerful
3. Light penetrates darkness
4. A Christian's character & conduct: very powerful influence!
5. Guard our influence: do not lose the salt flavor or hide the light
6. Apply this in the home
 - a. Be example to unbelievers, not yield to their influence
 - b. Strong in the faith, not yield to false teachers
 - c. Be example to family: faithful to worship, honest, clean mouth, control temper, no worldliness, no adultery, etc.

B. Avoid Sinful Expressions of Anger

1. **Matt. 5:21-22** Bad temper leads to hell
2. Spiritual kingdom: control our heart to control our actions
3. Uncontrolled anger escalates to foul words: Idiot! Reprobate!!
4. Abusive anger destroys harmony in home
 - a. Hatred
 - b. Bitterness
 - c. Revenge
 - d. Cursing
 - e. Threats
 - f. Pouting
 - g. Striking
 - h. Screaming
 - i. Throw things
 - j. Blasphemy

C. How to Settle Conflicts

1. **Matt. 5:23-26** Seek reconciliation now!
2. Unsettled conflicts fester, escalate, & explode
3. When sin against mate, seek reconciliation **now**: repent, apologize, make correction, follow up!
4. Hold grudges & resentment: anger will explode again
5. Be ready to pray for each other, forgive & forget: harmony!
4. Meek spirit leads to harmony

D. Avoid Sinful Sexual Lust

1. **Matt. 5:27-30** Guard heart, eyes, hands
2. Guard the heart by control eyes, hands: do not feed our eyes & touch a lady in sinful ways
3. If disobey: wife wounded many ways
4. If obey: harmony in the home!

p. 2 Harmony In Home: Sermon

E. Avoid Fornication & Divorce

1. **Matt. 5:31-32** Better to solve our problem, not send 3 souls to hell
2. Divorce destroys happiness, homes, souls—better to solve our problem!
3. Fornication destroys happiness, homes, souls—better to solve our problem!

Conclusion

1. Two ways to live: God's will OR man's will
2. Christ introduced his new kingdom in the Sermon on the Mount (Matt. 5-7)
3. **Matt. 5** Conduct in the kingdom
 - a. Be a good example
 - b. Avoid sinful expressions of anger
 - c. How to settle conflicts
 - d. Avoid sinful sexual lust
 - e. Avoid fornication & divorce
4. **Jn. 3:5** Begin new life, enter the kingdom
 - a. Born of water: submit in water baptism
 - b. ...and of the Spirit: gave the gospel