

Jesus' Toughest Teachings

The Sermon on the Mount, Season 1

Core Message: Jesus' teachings from the Sermon on the Mount call us to a higher standard of holiness and heart-level obedience. He challenges us not only to avoid outward sin but also to guard our hearts against lust, dishonesty, and retaliation. Rabbi Schneider emphasizes that Jesus meant what He said—believers are called to live differently, with purity, integrity, mercy, and trust in God. This message is not about condemnation but about aligning with the kingdom lifestyle that Jesus modeled and taught.

Main Bible Verses (NASB):

- **Core Memory Verse: (Matthew 5:27-30) "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall not commit adultery'; but I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye makes you stumble, tear it out and throw it from you..."**
- Matthew 5:31-32 "Now it was said, 'Whoever sends his wife away is to give her a certificate of divorce'; but I say to you that everyone who divorces his wife, except for the reason of sexual immorality, makes her commit adultery..."
- (Matthew 5:33-37 "Again, you have heard that the ancients were told, 'You shall not make false vows... But I say to you, take no oath at all... But make sure your statement is, 'Yes, yes' or 'No, no'; anything beyond these is of evil."
- Matthew 5:38-42 "You have heard that it was said, 'Eye for eye, and tooth for tooth.' But I say to you, do not show opposition against an evil person... whoever slaps you on your right cheek, turn the other toward him also."
- Matthew 6:21 "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

- Numbers 6:24-26 "The Lord bless you and keep you; The Lord cause His face to shine on you And be gracious to you; The Lord lift up His face to you, And give you peace."

Key Points (Fill-in-the-Blank):

- "If you see an attractive woman and then stay there _____ at her because you are attracted, then you're lusting."
- "It's better to be _____ and have nothing to do than to indulge yourself in spiritual pornography."
- "To have a successful marriage requires _____."
- "Marriage is not first about our own _____."
- "If someone hits you on the face, turn the other _____."
- "Whatever you lose for His sake... just trust God. Let it all go. _____ Him."
- "These principles teach us how to walk in this earth in the _____ of God."

Notes:

(Use lines below for personal notes)

Reflection Questions:

1. In what areas of your life do you find it most difficult to obey Jesus' commands from the Sermon on the Mount?

2. How can you guard your heart and eyes from lust in a culture saturated with temptation?

3 Are there any unfulfilled promises or "oaths" you've made that you need to bring before God?

4. How do you typically respond when wronged—and how might Jesus' teaching about turning the other cheek challenge your reactions?

5. Has the Holy Spirit pinpointed a specific item needing repentance and ruthless self-discipline in order to correct? What temptations are you experiencing as you contemplate what this will mean and how will you answer in a God pleasing way?

Application Challenge of the Week:

This week, intentionally avoid any TV shows, social media, or situations that feed a spirit of lust or retaliation. Replace them with time in prayer or reading the Gospels.

(Or come up with your own as the Lord leads):

Prayer Prompts:

- "Ask God to purify your heart and mind from lustful thoughts."
 - Pray for strength to forgive and release those who have wronged you."
 - "Thank Jesus for showing us how to live the kingdom lifestyle."
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Resources	Where to find it
<i>The Beatitudes</i> , a teaching series; <i>To Know Him By Name & Decoding the Torah</i> , Books by Rabbi K. A. Schneider	https://store.discoveringthejewishjesus.com/products/the-beatitudes-sc https://discoveringthejewishjesus.com/to-know-him-by-name/ https://discoveringthejewishjesus.com/decoding-the-torah/

"The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord cause His face to shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord lift up His face to you and give you peace." Numbers 6:22-27 (