



Principles of the Kingdom ~ 2

Leader's Notes

Give the worksheet out at the beginning of the study. The first question is to be discussed with the whole group, while the second would be better discussed in smaller groups. Below are the answers to the blanks and the discussion questions.

THE FULFILMENT OF THE LAW Matthew 5:17-20

1. Jesus Fulfilled the Law v17, 18



How do you think Jesus fulfilled the Law and the Prophets?
(Discuss this with the whole group briefly.)

- The Law includes the commands God gave. Jesus perfectly obeyed all these commands. No other person has done this.
- The Law also speaks about the tabernacle, the priests and the sacrifices. Jesus also fulfilled these. He is our High Priest and our perfect sacrifice.
- The Prophets include most of the remaining books in the Old Testament, and these pointed forward to the coming of Jesus.

2. We are to Keep the Law v20

- Pharisees and the Teachers of the Law
- Outward



Go through the commands that Jesus quotes and see how He really wants us to obey these words. You could divide into smaller groups of 3 or 4 for this.

Verse	Laws in the Old Testament	Principles of the Kingdom of God
Matthew 5:21	'Do not murder' Exodus 20:13	<p>What is the true meaning of this verse? Matthew 5:22</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - It is not just the outward action that is wrong, but the attitude of the heart. We are not even to hold anger and hatred in our hearts, or speak nasty words to others. The law in the Old Testament takes on a deeper meaning in the Kingdom of God. <p>What must we do if someone has something against us? Matthew 5:23-24</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - We must go to them and ask their forgiveness. So often we avoid them, or go through others. It may not be cultural, but it is God's way.

Matthew 5:27	'Do not commit adultery' Exodus 20:14	What is the true meaning of this verse? Matthew 5:28 - God not only looks at the outward action but the thoughts in our minds. Even if we look lustfully at another person we have committed adultery in our hearts. We are to take this sin seriously. See v29-30.
Matthew 5:31	'Anyone who divorces his wife ...' Deuteronomy 24:1-4	Jesus gives us a higher standard than the Old Testament. What is it? Matthew 5:32 - Although the Old Testament allows divorce Jesus said that God permitted it because of man's sinfulness. In Malachi it says that God hates divorce and this was not His purpose when He created man. The Jews had taken these words and misused them by allowing divorce for any reason. Jesus lifts this command to what God intended it to be. The only reason for divorce should be marital unfaithfulness. Marriage is very important to God.
Matthew 5:33	'Do not break your oath' Numbers 30:2	Matthew 5:34-37 - This command had also been misused. The Jewish leaders said that if you didn't use God's name when you made a vow or promise, then it didn't matter if you didn't keep it. Jesus said it was better not to make unnecessary vows, but that our words should always be dependable.
Matthew 5:38	'Eye for an eye' Exodus 21:24	Matthew 5:39-41 - This law shows justice, however there were other laws in the Old Testament that provided ways to compensate for crimes, and so this was not usually done literally. Jesus literally fulfilled this law. We deserve to die because we have broken God's law, but Jesus died in our place and gave His life for our live. - Jesus shows that as members of the Kingdom we are not to pay back others for wrongs they have done to us. We are to be like our Father, who not only forgives us for the wrong we have done to Him, but shows us His kindness.
Matthew 5:43	'Love your neighbor and hate your enemy' Leviticus 19:18	Why are we to love our enemies? - The first part of these words is from the Old Testament Law, but the religious leaders had added the second part by misinterpreting Scripture! Jesus says that we are to love and pray for our enemies. This is the true meaning of the law and this is the law of the Kingdom. - Why are we to love our enemies? See v45-48

Encourage your group members to write their answers in the worksheet. After the groups have completed the questions, come together and go through them. You do not need to share all the information on this sheet. This has been given to help you understand the Scriptures so you can explain what is necessary. Be sensitive to the Holy Spirit, so that you focus on what He wants to say to the group.

Answer to remaining blanks: Savior

Outward actions

Inward obedience