



Week of Apr 2 - a

Scripture: Mt 5:27-30

Main Idea: Jesus continues in this “sermon on the mount” to teach a higher level of goodness (holiness) than people were used to. In this passage he addresses the topic of lust in context of marriage, and the importance of us sacrificing in this life, to be in heaven with God in the next life.

Questions

Preschool: Do you ever want something you are not supposed to have? What would God want you to do when this happens?

Grade school: Do you ever wish you had something that is not yours? Have you ever thought about trying to take it somehow? Why would that be wrong? A: It would be stealing.

Teen: Why is lust considered committing adultery in our hearts? Are there some movies or TV shows we shouldn't be watching or music we shouldn't be listening to? How does God's standard in this passage differ from the world's?

Adult: Sometimes it's easy to take the high road when the alternative is very bad. Does it ever seem that the high road is sometimes rough and rocky? That making a moral choice or holding yourself to a higher standard than those around you is oppressively difficult? How do you encourage yourself in these cases? Do you have a scripture that helps you to recall the appropriate behavior?

PRAYER REQUESTS

PRAY:
For God to help us submit to him and his will for our lives.

April Memory Verse:

Psalm 56:3 (ESV)

³ When I am afraid, I put my trust in you.



Week of **Apr 2 - 6**

Scripture: Mt 5:31-37

Main Idea: This passage covers the faithfulness those who are married are to have toward their spouse. Then Jesus addresses another problem they were having with oath keeping. It seems there was a Jewish practice that if you swore by heaven, or earth, or by Jerusalem, that it was less binding than if you swore by the name of God. Jesus clears this up by teaching them to simply do what they say, and live honest faithful lives.

Questions

Preschool: Does Jesus want us to keep our word?

Grade school: If I asked you to draw a picture on the board, would I expect you to make a promise? Such as writing it on paper and both of us sign it? No. I would just want you to tell me that yes, you'll do it, and then draw the picture. We are supposed to be believed by our word and not need to make promises.

Teen: How is this teaching on marriage different from the world's view? Should we go into marriage thinking, "if it doesn't work out, or I'm not happy, we'll just get a divorce?" Why not? Also, how important is it to keep our word?

Adult: Keeping vows. Doing what we say we will do. This behavior is getting less and less common. Do the people you are around view vows like paper, that you can break a promise as easily as you can burn up a paper? How does that impact you? Does it make you less inclined to follow through when you promise something? Or do you become a skeptic, and take everything they say with a grain of salt – but keep what you promised? How do you feel when you have to break a promise? Even through no fault of your own? Who taught you that moral view?

PRAYER REQUESTS

PRAY:

For God to help us to be people of honor and to keep our word to others

April Memory Verse:

Psalm 56:3 (ESV)

³ When I am afraid, I put my trust in you.