

Anger, Insults, and Reconciliation Matthew 5:21-26

Overview of Matthew 5:1-20

How the spiritually poor can be saved	Therefore our purpose is to show Jesus!	But what about the Old Testament?	
5:2-12	5:13-16	5:17-20	5:21-26

What is Jesus correcting?

Not the Old Testament itself, but the Scribes' distortion of the Old Testament.

What is Jesus calling us to do?

He focuses on our relationships with our brothers — which means our brothers and sisters in Christ.

He says —

- Do not be angry.
- Do not insult.
- Seek reconciliation.
- Make amends.

The only way we can do this is by going back to the beginning of the Beatitudes —

Come to Jesus as we are — poor in Spirit — and trust Him to do the work

- Forgiving us through the Cross
- Changing us by His resurrection power
- Filling us with the heart-satisfying presence of the Spirit



HOME GROUP DISCUSSION OF SUNDAY'S TEACHING

(Sometimes in our home groups we talk about Sunday's teaching, so we can work together on responding to God's Word — asking questions, sharing insights, talking together.)

What was the Holy Spirit saying to you Sunday through this passage?

What questions, ideas, objections, encouragements did you come away with?

In the past how have you viewed anger? As something that's natural? Normal? Or as something that could make someone liable to God's judgment. How has this passage changed your view of anger?

Does it make sense that anger is more likely to be unrighteous when it's focused on me and my well-being — and more likely to be righteous when it's focused on God's glory and others' well-being? Why or why not?

Can you see how unrighteous anger involves not trusting Jesus as my heart-satisfaction? Why or why not?

Which of these four action-steps do you need to pursue?

Not being angry?

Not insulting?

Pursuing reconciliation?

Making amends?

Can you see how impossible it is to do these just by our will-power? Can you understand why we have to go back to the beginning of the Beatitudes to obey? Why or why not?

What are you going to do differently because of these Scriptures?

Share prayer requests that come up in the discussion, jot them down below, and pray for each other.



SERMON ON THE MOUNT

MERCY HILL CHURCH SPRING-SUMMER 2012