

## Broken Relationships

Matthew 5:21-26

### Introduction:

- Each one of us is u\_\_\_\_\_
- 1. We have some similarities but a lot of d\_\_\_\_\_ (personalities, interests, opinions, strengths, weaknesses, etc)
- 2. Due to this and the presence of t\_\_\_\_\_, broken relationships are going to occur.
- Jesus tells us how to deal with broken relationships.
- 1. He begins with what people had h\_\_\_\_\_ about the commandment, “Do not kill.”
  - a. Jesus is challenging the t\_\_\_\_\_ interpretation of the sixth commandment (the addition – “shall be guilty before the court” is not found in the Law).
  - b. The ruling court in Jesus’s day were the religious l\_\_\_\_\_ who opposed Him. However, they could not try capital crimes because the Roman Empire prohibited it.
- 2. Jesus counters with what He says (remember He is the Word) – religious leaders justified their h\_\_\_\_\_ in the name of religion but Jesus says that they stand before a court as well (Jesus is referring to a h\_\_\_\_\_ court).
  - a. \_\_\_ashing out in anger against your brother (murderous thoughts - *I wish you were dead*) – the heavenly court says g\_\_\_\_\_
  - b. \_\_\_ashing your brother with words reducing them to nothing, literally an empty head (*you piece of crap*) – the heavenly supreme court says g\_\_\_\_\_
  - c. \_\_\_ashing your brother (the Greek word is moron and can mean without reason or useless; the idea of useless is meant here) – this sin is punishable by the Lake of \_\_\_\_\_ (literally, the Gehenna of fire).
- This message mostly applies to family members and fellow believers.

### How broken relationships n\_\_\_\_\_ affect you

- The hypothetical situation
  - 1. You are offering something on the a\_\_\_\_\_
    - a. In Jewish life this was a s\_\_\_\_\_ of some kind
    - b. In Jewish life this was an act of w\_\_\_\_\_
  - 2. You suddenly remember that someone has something against you (this refers to a s\_\_\_\_\_ relationship – who is in the wrong is not emphasized)
- The proper response to this kind of situation
  - 1. L\_\_\_\_\_ your gift at the altar (stop the act of worship)
  - 2. G\_\_\_ and work to mend the broken relationship (reconcile)

●When we truly worship God

1. Our hearts are o\_\_\_\_\_.
2. God will r\_\_\_\_\_ to us what we must do.
  - a. We might h\_\_\_\_\_ in taking action.
  - b. We might r\_\_\_\_\_ to take action.
  - c. We might w\_\_\_\_\_ to take action but are not sure how.

**How you can p\_\_\_\_\_ affect broken relationships**

●When someone has wronged you

1. It is easy to think that the person in the wrong should make the f\_\_\_\_\_ move.
  - a. Jesus did not wait for us to make the first move when we were l\_\_\_\_\_ (Rom 5:8; I Jn 4:19)
  - b. Jesus does not wait for us to make the first move even though we are saved but d\_\_\_\_\_ us (Rev 3:19; I Cor 11:32)
2. We are follow Jesus's e\_\_\_\_\_ and work to restore that broken relationship
  - a. Jesus has already told us what attitudes NOT to have (v. 22), which implicitly requires us to f\_\_\_\_\_ them.
  - b. The opposite attitudes of v 22 should fill our hearts (Gal 5:22,23 – the f\_\_\_\_\_ of the Spirit; Gal 6:1 – humility and gentleness).
  - c. We work to provide the best possible a\_\_\_\_\_ for that person to repent. What if it does not work?
    - 1) Give them t\_\_\_\_\_ to repent (Jesus was patient with a lady in the church of Thyatira, giving her time to repent of her immorality – Rev 2:21)
    - 2) If the person is truly a believer, we must t\_\_\_\_\_ the discipline of God in motivating them to eventually repent.

●When you have wronged someone

1. Jesus illustrates the consequences of not making things right with a court case of non-payment of d\_\_\_\_\_ (vv 25,26)
  - a. You will l\_\_\_\_\_ the case
  - b. You will be \_\_\_\_\_ until you pay off the debt in full
2. Jesus commands to make f\_\_\_\_\_ quickly before it goes this far by making an agreement that you both can live with.
3. The bottom line – WORK THINGS OUT BEFORE THINGS GET W\_\_\_\_\_.

●When both parties have contributed to the strained relationship

1. First follow the steps for when you have wronged someone
2. Then if they do not respond by admitting wrong, follow the steps for when someone has wronged you.