



Sermon on the Mount: Law, Prophets, and Jesus.

Sunday, November 1st, 2015

In **The Sermon on the Mount**, Jesus takes the time to help his listeners understand how the Law (Old Testament) and the words he uses fit together.

How would you describe the difference between the Old and New Testaments?

Read **Matthew 5:17-20** by alternating different readers for each verse within the passage.

What do you hear Jesus saying about the Law in this scripture text?

Why do you believe Jesus felt the need to share these particular words?

Jesus came to both **fulfill the law** and to **challenge** its effect on our lives.

How did Jesus fulfill the law, specifically?

Our response to God's law is to either work tirelessly to meet the rules, or ease up the rules to lower the standards. Neither works, with both leading to self-righteousness or anxiety.

How does keeping God's law lead to self-righteousness? Share personal examples.

How does failing to keep God's law lead to condemnation? Share personal examples.

Read **Jeremiah 31:31,33** together as a group. Jeremiah is talking about the new covenant that Jesus would bring to His people.

How does admitting our failure to keep the law help us get into right standing with God?

How can Matthew 5 and Jeremiah 31 serve as a reminder that we are loved?