

Matthew 13, You Shall Not Murder

Matthew 5:21-26

Point 1 - Thou shalt not commit murder, therefore avoid the roots of murder

- **The roots of murder begin with anger in our hearts**
 - You shall not murder
 - Jesus affirms law, impossible to live in a culture without laws against murder
 - Jesus raises the stakes, heart issue
 - Everyone who is angry with his brother will be liable to judgment
 - Means we are all murderers
 - **1 John 3:15** Everyone who hates his brother is a murderer
 - If the act is wrong, then the heart condition that leads to it is wrong
 - Story of Rich young ruler
 - We get angry when we are mistreated, Jesus did not
 - Jesus got angry when God was mistreated – do we?
- **The roots of murder begin when we despise others**
 - Whoever insults his brother
 - The root of murder is in looking at another person and despising them
 - When studying law, God commends the opposite of what is forbidden
 - Value of people reflected in way we spend our time

Point 2 - Thou shalt not commit murder, therefore seek reconciliation

- **Seek reconciliation with those you have wronged**
 - Reconciliation more important than worship
 - Reconciliation is a two way street
- **Seek reconciliation with your enemies**
 - Radical discipleship means that you are not only responsible for your own anger, and for your brothers anger, but even for your enemies anger

Point 3 - Thou shalt not commit murder, therefore lay down your own life

- Opposite of taking someone's life is laying down yours
- Die every single day of your life
 - Dying for God
 - Die to our personal agenda
 - Die to our sinful inclinations
 - Die to our perceived rights – autonomy, self dependence
 - Dying in relationships
 - Co-workers, neighbors, extended family
 - Raising children
 - Especially with spouse