

MESSAGE BIG IDEA

The way of Jesus challenges us to ask: “What does love require of me?”

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 5:17-48, Matthew 22:37-40

POINTS TO KEEP IN MIND**THE WAY OF LOVE**

When Jesus raised the bar of righteousness in the Sermon on the Mount, in essence, he is just calling us to live out the truth of who we already are as children of God. Jesus wants to empower us to live lives of radical love. As we apprentice Him in the ways of His kingdom, He will transform our hearts to live out the Scriptures by loving as He loves.

SO THEN

- When we find ourselves wanting to hold onto anger, His Spirit will prompt us to ask, “What does the way of love look like in this situation?”
- When we find ourselves tempted to manipulate others with our words, His Spirit will nudge us to ask, “What does the way of love look like in this conversation?”
- When we find ourselves on the brink of lashing out at an adversary, His Spirit will prod us to ask, “What does the way of love look like in this confrontation?”
- To walk in the way of Jesus is to walk in the way of love. Jesus wants to empower us, his apprentices, to love as he loves.

BIBLE STUDY

Matthew 5:17-48. The Law was kept perfectly by Christ, and all its penalties against God’s sinful people were poured out on Christ. Therefore, the Law is now manifestly not the path to righteousness; Christ is. The Law’s ultimate goal is that we would look to Christ, not law-keeping, for our righteousness.

Matthew 22:37-40. When someone truly loves the Lord with every part of their being, that love is true love. It is a love which is born of trusting in Him and which flows into our hearts and minds. From that love will flow a willing service to others and loving obedience from a heart that loves the Lord with every part of his being.

“It’s not about finding ways to avoid God’s judgment and feeling like a failure if you don’t do everything perfectly. It’s about fully experiencing God’s love and letting it perfect you. It’s not about being somebody you are not. It’s about becoming who you really are.” — Stormie Omartian, Author