



Small Group Study Questions

Sermon on August 20th, 2023

Romans 8:5-8 (NASB)

5 For those who are in accord with the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who are in accord with the Spirit, the things of the Spirit. **6** For the mind set on the flesh is death, but the mind set on the Spirit is life and peace, **7** because the mind set on the flesh is hostile toward God; for it does not subject itself to the law of God, for it is not even able *to do so*, **8** and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

Genesis 6:11-13 (NASB)

11 Now the earth was corrupt in the sight of God, and the earth was filled with violence. **12** And God looked on the earth, and behold, it was corrupt; for humanity had corrupted its way upon the earth. **13** Then God said to Noah, "The end of humanity has come before Me; for the earth is filled with violence because of people; and behold, I am about to destroy them with the earth.

Jonah 3:8 (NASB)

8 But every person and animal must be covered with sackcloth; and people are to call on God vehemently, and they are to turn, each one from his evil way, and from the violence which is in their hands.

Matthew 5:39-45 (NASB)

39 But I say to you, do not show opposition against an evil person; but whoever slaps you on your right cheek, turn the other toward him also. **40** And if anyone wants to sue you and take your tunic, let him have your cloak also. **41** Whoever forces you to go one mile, go with him two. **42** Give to him who asks of you, and do not turn away from him who wants to borrow from you. **43** "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' **44** But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, **45** so that you may prove yourselves to be sons of your Father who is in heaven; for He causes His sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous.

DIGGING DEEPER

What are the common thoughts about the origin of violence?

What are some religions that have been violent in the past because of their beliefs?

Read Romans 8:5-8

How does the mindset on the flesh lead to behaviors like violence?

What does hostility to God look like in America in 2023?

Read Genesis 6:11-13

What does this passage tell us about the source of violence? Is it religion? Why or why not?

How does God view violence and its effects on humanity? What are the results?

DIGGING DEEPER

Read Jonah 3:8

What does this verse say about the inner consciousness of man?

Read Matthew 5:38-45

What is Jesus trying to speak out against?

What is it that makes this teaching so difficult?

What are some questions we ask those who think that religion causes violence?

TAKING IT HOME

PRAYER REQUEST

