



Welcome: What is the first thing you think of when you wake up in the morning?

Worship: Listen to *Your Love Defends* by Matt Maher.

Word: *Read Matthew 5:33-37*

1. Why are we 'tempted' to make/take boastful oaths?
2. What does an oath look like in our culture?
3. Explain the power of a simple yes or no that acknowledges the necessity of the Holy Spirit to keep it.
4. What is a promise you family, friends, church, or co-workers need you to make and keep with the help of God?

Read Matthew 5:38-48

5. What is the danger of the law/laws of retribution and restitution?
6. How does refraining from retribution and instead giving more over to our "enemies" match u with law/laws of generosity?
7. Explain the irony of these verses (look at the ironies of the beatitudes).
- 9 How can we, in the sea of the battle, find such power o resist such evil with good?

Witness: Matthew 5:44 says, "...love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you." Take time this week to pray for someone who has hurt you in the past with words or actions.