October 26th, 2025 Sticks & Stones - Week 4

Question: How many have ever dealt with an overreaction by someone to whom you were talking to?

What I've found out is, <u>not only do Actions speak Louder than words</u>, <u>but even more</u>, REACTIONS Speak Louder than Actions or Words!

We're all pretty predictable when it comes to our Reactions to certain environments, certain words, certain types of people, certain names... they trigger us.

I want to introduce a new conversation tactic, and that is the Art of the OVER-under REACTION!

As a Christian, we not only have to Guard our Words and our Actions, but even more so, our Reactions!

I. Revolutionary Reactions

A. Eye for an Eye - Matthew 5:38-39 NIV

This is where it could be easy for us to misunderstand what Jesus is saying, <u>Jesus is not talking about protection</u>, <u>self-defense</u> (<u>self-defense is instinctive</u>). He's talking about Retaliation.

- B. Right Cheek Concept
- C. Take a Walk Matthew 5:41 NIV
- D. Share your Stuff, no strings attached! Matthew 5:42 NIV
- E. Love Everyone! Matthew 5:43 NIV

Think about how your heavenly reacted to your sin!

- Knowing what you would do
- Knowing what you wouldn't do
- Knowing the promises that you would break.
- Knowing the lies that we would tell
- Knowing the harm that we would inflict on others and then not take responsibility for it. Right?
- Knowing the excuses we would make when we're caught
- Knowing the secrets we would keep
- Knowing the selfishness we would embrace

Jesus says, this is why I want you to react this way, because this is how your heavenly father reacted to you.