

Discussion Guide

Kyle Dwyer

Message: *I'm (Not) Good* (series: *Sermon On the Mount*)

February 25, 2024

PRIMARY PASSAGE: Matthew 5:17-20 (NIV)

“Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth disappear, not the smallest letter, not the least stroke of a pen, will by any means disappear from the Law until everything is accomplished. Therefore anyone who sets aside one of the least of these commands and teaches others accordingly will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever practices and teaches these commands will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you that unless your righteousness surpasses that of the Pharisees and the teachers of the law, you will certainly not enter the kingdom of heaven.”

MESSAGE HIGHLIGHTS:

Jesus confronts all his hearers with the reality of God's Law. Jesus wants us to see the Law for what it is: God's standard of righteousness. He wants us to see this because the Law shows us our lost condition and need for Jesus. Jesus died in our place, fulfilling all the requirements of God's Law in order that we might be saved now and forever from our sins and be accepted forever by God. Jesus' fulfillment of the Law on our behalf frees us from trying to earn our salvation by works, and now allows us to follow God's law through how Jesus has taught us in Scripture.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. When you hear about God's Law, what comes to mind? Is the concept of God's Law, especially His universal moral law, foreign to you?
2. Kyle pointed out that the law shows us our sin and need for Jesus and what He did on the cross. How important is it to be honest with our sin in order to experience the grace and forgiveness of God?
3. Jesus explained that He fulfills the law, and the message demonstrated that this means we are free from working our way to salvation. How does this reality shape our relationship with Jesus as His followers? What is the danger of forgetting that Jesus fulfills all the requirements for us to be with Him forever?
4. Kyle reminded us that we now have a new relationship with God's commands. How does the concept that we are free from sin in order to obey Jesus shape your current walk with Him? How does the Law of God fit into that obedience?

THINGS TO PRAY FOR:

1. That we would be honest with ourselves and with God about our sin and that when we do sin, we rely on Jesus' purchased forgiveness to restore us.
2. That we would adore Jesus and seek to obey Him because of what He did for us in fulfilling the law.
3. That we would rejoice in the Lord's presence that we are forever accepted and counted as righteous in God's sight by faith in Jesus.
4. That we would be bold to proclaim the law and gospel to those around us to help them see their sin and need for Jesus.