

Keeping the Spouse, What We Say, & How We Repay

Sermon on the Mount Series – Part 5

Matthew 5:31–48

Key Truth:

Jesus didn't come to lower God's standard—He came to reveal God's heart. When Christ lives through us, He produces faithfulness, truthfulness, and grace.

I. Keeping the Spouse

Matthew 5:31–32

Marriage has always been about **covenant**, not convenience.

God's Heart

- Divorce was permitted because of the hardness of man's heart—not because it was God's desire.
- God Himself pursued reconciliation with unfaithful Israel.
- Christ continually pursues reconciliation with us.

Ask Yourself...

- Am I fighting for reconciliation or looking for an escape?
- Does my marriage reflect Christ's love and faithfulness?

Key Thought:

God is always pro-reconciliation. If God continually pursues us, shouldn't we pursue one another?

Notes:

II. What We Say

Matthew 5:33–37

Our testimony is only as good as our word.

Jesus isn't teaching us how to make better promises.

He's teaching us to become people who don't need them.

Let Your Word Mean Something

- Say what you mean.
- Mean what you say.
- Keep your word.
- Let your integrity speak louder than your promises.

Key Thought:

A Christian shouldn't have to convince people he's telling the truth. His life ought to do that for him.

Study Later

- Exodus 20:7
- Leviticus 19:12
- Numbers 30
- Ecclesiastes 5:4–6

Notes:

III. How We Repay

Matthew 5:38–48

The world says...

"Get even."

Jesus says...

"Show grace."

Grace changes how we respond when we've been wronged.

Christ's Response

- Don't live for revenge.
- Be willing to suffer wrong.
- Forgive quickly.
- Give generously.

- Love your enemies.
- Remember—their soul is worth more than your comfort.

Ask Yourself...

- Is my response pointing people to Christ...
- ...or pushing them away from Him?

Key Thought:

My feelings aren't more important than someone's soul. My possessions aren't more important than someone's soul. My rights aren't more important than someone's soul.

Notes:

Take It Home

Daily Heart Check

- ☐ Am I protecting the covenant God has given me?
- ☐ Can people trust my word?
- ☐ Am I responding with grace instead of revenge?
- ☐ Is Christ being seen in the way I love, speak, and forgive?

Closing Truth

The Law demands justice.

Jesus fulfilled the Law and now teaches us to live by grace.

When we walk with Him, faithfulness replaces selfishness, truth replaces empty words, and grace replaces retaliation.