

UNSHAKEABLE

LIVING THE WORDS OF JESUS



SERMON OUTLINE

Sunday Sept 27th, 2020

Good Enough (Jesus Is...) - Pastor David Cooke

Matthew 5:21-26

1. The Murderous Heart

2. “You have heard it said...”

3. It’s A Heart Issue

Matthew 5:21–26, NLT

4. Do Not Murder

5. But I Say...

- Resentful Bitter Anger Is Murder
- Discrimination Is Murder
- Racism Is Murder
- Character Assassination Is Murder
 - Who Are You Cursing?

6. The Jesus Way

(Matthew 5:23–24, NLT)

- Reconciliation and Forgiveness
- The heart of the Gospel of Jesus is Reconciliation and Forgiveness
- Steps to Forgiving others. (Lewis Smedes – The Art of Forgiving)

- We rediscover the humanity of the person who wronged us
 - We surrender the right to get even.
 - We wish them well.
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- God's forgiveness of us means that we "have a hope and a future" (Jeremiah 29.11)
 - Our forgiveness of others means that we can begin to hope for the best for the other person, not the worst.

7. Surrender - Follow - Listen - Do

(2 Corinthians 5:21, ESV)

(John 8:36, NLT)

(Luke 19:10, NLT)

Life Group Study Guide

We meet in Life Groups to: Connect with God and each other. Connect the Bible to life. Connect with the community through serving together.

ICE BREAKER: What's some good advice you have been given for handling anger?

PRAYER: God is worthy to be sought - take time to pray together in your group.

SERMON SERIES: "Unshakeable: Living The Words of Jesus"

In this sermon series we explore how to live according to Jesus' teachings in **Matthew chapters 5-7**. This is the **Gospel of the Kingdom**. It is something we are not only to know, but to do, to *live*. And when we do that, we are immovable, unshakeable because the foundation is Jesus and he is the Rock of our salvation that is immovable and *unshakeable*.

THIS WEEK: Matthew 5:21-26

Watch the weekend's sermon here: <http://www.coldspringschurch.net/sermons.html>.

EXPLORING TOGETHER

There is value in sharing perspectives about the weekend message in community. With dialogue around God's truths, perspective broadens and impacts transformation.

1. What is something from this weekend's message that stood out to you? How so?

TAKING IT HOME

We are not meant to just let life happen to us, *conforming* rather than *transforming* (**Romans 12:1-2**). We can choose to allow God's transforming power into our life.

In Jesus' day, life could be viewed as one big scorecard where you could check-off all the laws you had not broken or the sins you were not guilty of committing. For many within the religious leadership community, this approach culminated in an immense sense of pride.

Jesus' words brought a radical change to the sense of righteousness. He challenged that while a person may not have committed the actual crime, within the letter of the law, but what about the spirit of the law? He was saying that **the deed is initiated by the head and the heart.**

2. What is your experience with the power of a rumor?
3. Why do you think Jesus linked anger with the crime of murder?

Murder, according to Jesus, is not merely the ending of another person's physical life. In some respects, that might even be the kinder thing to do. It can be far more painful and hurtful to be the object of another person's anger, discrimination, or character assassination.

4. Ephesians 4:26 says, "in your anger do not sin." When does anger become sinful?

The Greek language, in which the New Testament was written, had two words which are translated as anger in English: "**Thumos**" described anger or wrath that flares up quickly, and then dies down; it does not last or linger. The other word, "**orgē**," described the kind of anger that is long-lived and cultivated—frequently with a view to revenge. **Passive aggression** might be a manifestation of this type of anger. It was this *orgē* kind of anger that Jesus referred to as being equivalent to murder.

WEEKLY REFLECTION

Restoration of an individual's relationship with God (being made righteous) is not possible until there has been a setting right of broken relationships with other people. **Jesus linked the attitude of a person's heart toward others with their attempt to have a right relationship with God.**

5. How would you explain the freedom mentioned in following passages to someone who feels burdened with the pain of unforgiveness? 2 Corinthians 5:21; John 8:36; Luke 19:10.
6. Tell about an experience of reconciliation with someone that brought renewal in your relationship with God?

The Gospel - the Good News of Jesus - is that we are forgiven by God. Because we are forgiven, through the Spirit of God we have been given the power to forgive. As Pastor David said this weekend, "No forgiveness, no freedom. In forgiveness, there is freedom. Freedom to love and be loved."

7. The last few weeks we have been talking about the pathway to living the words of Jesus as: **Surrender - Follow - Listen - Do**. Of these 4 areas, which do you struggle with most? Which is your strongest area? How does it impact the other areas?

Reference: *The Essence: Unpacking Jesus' Sermon on the Mount* (2020). Winslade, B. Wipf & Stock Pub.

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