



Community Groups are used extensively as the primary vehicle for discipleship at The Gathering and run on a quarter system. There is one in the fall, one in the winter and one in the spring. During the summer weeks we don't meet in Community Groups but we still offer the Growth Guides as a tool to help you grow personally. The Growth Guides are designed to help you dig deeper into the weekly sermon on your own or with your family and are available each week along with the note sheets at church as well as online.

USE THIS GUIDE TO PREPARE FOR THE DISCUSSIONS IN COMMUNITY GROUP.

Consider...

Use the summary and discussion below to review and apply this week's message:

The Big Idea

Anger unchecked will turn into a wreck

Message Summary

Remember when Jesus said earlier that He had come to fulfill the Law? What that means going forward in the Sermon on the Mount is that Jesus is going to reveal a new level of living for Kingdom citizens. This week, we're examining the first of six sections where Jesus takes a standard from the Law and reveals the higher standard of the Kingdom. In Matt. 5:21-26, Jesus links murder with anger (!) and offers solutions on how to handle situations that have included anger.

Discuss

Use the following questions to review and apply the points learned in the message.

- What are some of the things that tend to trigger your anger?
- Whether it's leaving a worship service on walking to a courtroom, Jesus is clear that we should deal with our anger and the situations that triggered it quickly. If 1 is a sloth and 10 is a cheetah, how quickly do you deal with situations that make you angry? What factors could change your number in different situations?
- What's the best advice you've been given for dealing with anger?
- How does Jesus link anger with murder? Why do you think He does this? What inner attitudes do you think Jesus stressing?
- In the message, Paul said that anger isn't the problem, but that our inability to know how to handle our anger is the problem. How is Jesus going deeper than just saying "real Christians don't get angry?" Why does it matter?
- If murder was the standard for holiness, how much would you feel that you needed a savior? How does the broadening of this standard of holiness to the category of anger change your felt need for a savior?
- Think of a relationship that may need reconciliation. What specific help do you need from the Lord in order to pursue reconciliation (courage, forgiveness, patience, an opportunity)? Wrap the group time up by praying together about those things.