

SMALL GROUP RESOURCE

Jesus tells us we'll never be good enough.

SCRIPTURE READINGS:

Matthew 5:13-26

Matthew 5:27-47

Matthew 6:1-18

Matthew 6:19-34

Matthew 7:1-14

Matthew 7:15-29

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

What was the purpose of the Law?

How would you have reacted had you heard Jesus preach this sermon the first time?

When you were growing up what was your perception of Christianity? Was it primarily about rules (the room of good intentions) or was it primarily about grace (the room of grace)?

How does your background affect the way you read these words of Jesus?

Why do you think this message is at the beginning of Matthew's gospel?

Are you encouraged or discouraged by it?

Which was easier to live by: the Ten Commandments or the Sermon on the Mount? Why?

Jesus discusses 6 moral issues: anger, lust, faithfulness, integrity, generosity, and love. Which of these do you find most difficult to accept and apply?

What is our solution to the moral dilemma that Jesus creates in the Sermon on the Mount? What is God's solution?

PRAYER FOCUS:

Praise God for grace.

Agree with God about the areas where your life falls short of the ideal that Jesus presents.

Thank God for the cross and the resurrection.

Ask God to show you how to apply what you've learned.

FAMILY RESOURCE

BIG IDEA: Jesus tells us we'll never be good enough.

READ MATTHEW 5:17-18

What does "abolish" mean?

What does "fulfill" mean?

"Abolish" the dirty dishes after dinner.

"Fulfill" them by putting them away.

READ EXODUS 20:1-17

Make a list of the 10 commandments.

Which one is the easiest for you to keep?

Which one is the hardest for you to keep?

Make a list of 10 of your household's rules.

READ MATTHEW 5:19

What rules do you teach others to break?

What rules do you teach others to obey?

Using hard boiled eggs and olives, make a pair of eyes to remind yourself that others are watching what you do.

READ MATTHEW 5:20

Name someone who is not as "good" as you are.

Name someone who is "better" than you are.

How do you compare with Jesus?

READ MATTHEW 5:21-22

Where does sin begin?

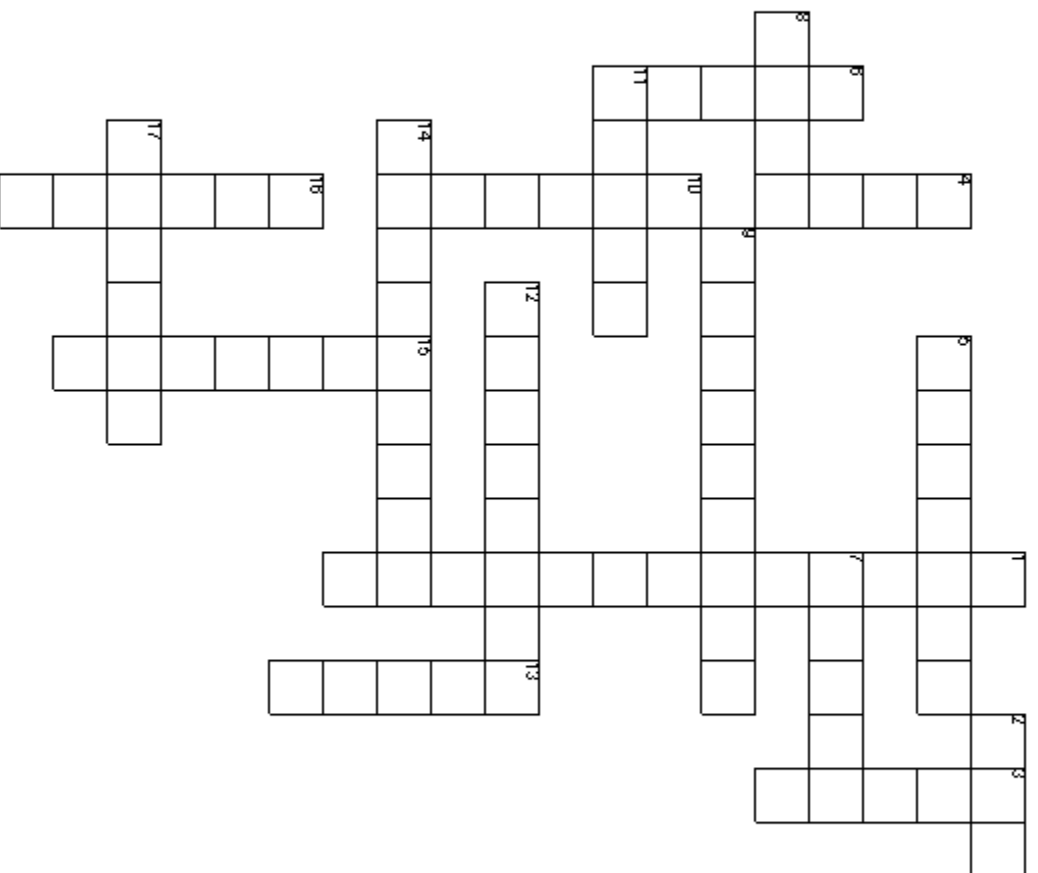
Make & send an "I'm Sorry" card.

MEMORY VERSE:

"Jesus did many other miraculous _____ in the presence of his _____, which are not recorded in this _____. But these are written that you may _____ that Jesus is the _____, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have _____ in His name." John 20:30-31

HOW GOOD AM I?

All clues are from the NIV version of the Bible.



Across

2. God's rules (Matthew 5:17)
5. complete (Matthew 5:17)
7. listen to (Exodus 20:12)
8. stupid! (Matthew 5:23)
9. measured by God's law (Matthew 5:17)
11. not a lie (Matthew 5:18)
12. orders (Matthew 5:19)
14. regularly does (Matthew 5:19)
17. risk (Matthew 5:22)

Down

1. Godly living (Matthew 5:20)
3. mad (Matthew 5:22)
4. an image of a god (Exodus 20:4)
6. uncontrolled desire (Exodus 20:17)
10. kill (Matthew 5:21)
13. rob (Exodus 20:15)
15. passes on to others (Matthew 5:19)
16. doesn't obey (Matthew 5:19)

How Good Am I?

W	B	S	X	X	Z	S	S	E	N	S	U	O	E	T	H	G	I	R
B	Q	H	L	L	Z	P	S	F	C	E	D	W	O	T	A	W	U	E
E	E	T	K	L	D	R	S	K	Q	U	N	D	U	D	A	C	Z	R
H	P	D	F	K	I	V	D	H	C	F	K	S	B	L	T	G	A	M
S	T	R	A	E	A	F	G	B	X	X	D	W	X	D	E	F	T	F
T	S	M	O	N	E	O	L	S	X	J	B	T	A	U	A	Y	P	H
E	X	U	G	V	O	F	S	U	L	C	B	N	A	P	C	S	G	U
A	J	R	F	M	C	N	K	G	F	Q	G	N	E	R	H	Z	K	R
L	Y	D	A	V	L	R	F	L	E	E	B	B	J	X	E	B	N	H
T	Z	E	H	M	R	H	E	T	R	G	G	V	L	I	S	E	U	L
A	D	R	B	O	H	U	H	B	S	Z	N	A	W	J	P	N	I	L
V	I	S	C	K	N	T	H	D	E	R	I	P	U	R	M	D	V	R
B	Y	Q	N	U	R	O	N	E	G	Z	Q	D	A	B	O	P	J	I
T	F	U	C	U	G	A	R	X	K	H	G	C	F	L	Q	M	U	Y
E	B	F	T	A	M	O	F	P	I	E	T	S	Y	N	Z	F	F	D
V	D	H	A	M	D	D	M	N	M	I	E	R	L	C	W	O	V	Z
O	M	X	O	A	H	B	N	E	C	E	J	Q	P	I	K	T	L	H
C	R	C	C	L	H	J	N	E	S	J	Z	Q	I	L	O	W	N	T
A	L	O	O	F	G	T	S	S	K	A	E	R	B	Y	L	K	V	E

idol practices truth covet

murder fool breaks law

judgement righteousness angry danger

teaches honor commands steal

fulfill

How Good Am I?

1. OROHN _____
2. RTHTU _____
3. LLFIFLU _____
4. VOCTE _____
5. DMRERU _____
6. NAGRY _____
7. ONCMADMS _____
8. UMETJDNGE _____
9. ESRABK _____
10. UISGSNSEOHRET _____
11. TSCEEAH _____
12. AEDGNR _____
13. EASLT _____
14. RCTPAESIC _____
15. WAL _____
16. OLOF _____
17. IODL _____