

- I. *Hard* hearts find a *way* to *disobey*
- John 1:12; Rom 12:1-2;
 I Pet 2:2;
 Matt 5:21, 27, 31;
 Lev 19:12; Num 30:2;
 Deut 23:21; Prov 29:18
- A. They take what the Lord *meant* for
good and use it *otherwise*
- Matt 23:16-22
- B. They miss His *heart*, so they
 miss the *point*, so they miss
 the *mark*
- Prov 29:7; Matt 5:8
- II. The Lord *commands* righteous
speech
- I John 5:3;
 Ps 119:1-3, 14-16
- A. There are no “*compartments*”
 in *life* that don't include *God*
- Matt 28:18-20;
 Rom 7:15-20;
 Mark 12:30
- B. Our *righteous words*
 always *conform* to *His*
 righteous *Word*
- Eph 4:25, 29-30; 5:3-4;
 Col 4:6; Ps 12:6;
 Matt 5:48; James 3:2
- III. When the Lord *fills* us, our *words* will
 be *right*
- A. Our *mouths* *speak* from
 what *fills* our *hearts*
- Matt 12:34; John 7:37-38;
 Eph 5:18-20
- B. To be *filled*, go back to the
“*beatitudes*”
- Matt 5:3-10

Care Group Questions

“But I Tell You #4”
Text: Matt 5:33-37

Dave Bechtel

December 9, 2007

1. Did you get to see all of the “family odyssey” video series? If you did, what sticks in your memory about them? What “lessons of truth” did they illustrate for you?
2. Which of the Jan Term classes interest you the most? How might that class help you in pursuing a deeper walk with Jesus? Are you planning on attending one of the classes as a group?
3. What was the original intent of the Lord when He gave the commands about oaths (see Leviticus 19:12; Number 30:2; Deuteronomy 23:21)? Is the summary that Jesus says some are saying (in Matthew 5:33) a fair one?
4. From the illustrations Jesus uses, how did the teachers of Jesus’ day twist the commands about oaths to be what the Lord never intended? (see Matthew 23:16ff for more illustrations of the same twisting) What was their twisting doing to their oaths?
5. What was the root problem in those who were using God’s Word to excuse their breaking of oaths? (Bonus Question: if Jesus knew the root problem, why would He still deal with the specific symptoms, like swearing falsely?)
6. How is the teachers’ world view one of “compartmentalizing” life? Which compartments, according to them, had God “in them”. Which didn’t? How did that influence the way they used their words in various situations?
7. What does the Lord want in our speech? Can you list any Bible verses or specific truths about how He wants us to use our words? (See the bonus question in #5 above: If we know the general standard the Lord wants in our speech, why would He give specifics?)
8. The Lord wants us to be righteous, even in our speech. In the beatitudes, which one mentions righteousness? How do we get the promise of righteousness in that beatitude? (How do the preceding beatitudes lead to that one?)
9. Look at Ephesians 5:18-20. What are some of the verbal evidences of being “filled with the Spirit”? Are you experiencing that now? If yes, does that indicate a “filling”? If no, does that indicate that you are not filled?

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