



## Week 4: Our Heart

Jesus raises the standard in the Sermon on the Mount, showing that the law isn't just about rules to follow but a heart transformed by love. Anger, lust, dishonesty, and revenge are all welcomed ways of the world, but have no place in the heart of a follower. They go deeper than outward actions, and only Jesus can change us from the inside out. He fulfilled the law completely and calls us to walk the narrow way of purity, integrity, reconciliation, humility, and love—a way that may not be easy, but always leads to life.

### Discussion Questions:

1. Jesus said he came not to abolish the law but to fulfill it (**Matt. 5:17**). What's the difference between following the letter of the law and living out the spirit of the law? Where do you see that tension in your own walk with Jesus?
2. Why do you think ongoing anger (**Matt. 5:21-24**) is so destructive? How does unresolved conflict impact our relationship with God? Is there someone in your life you need to seek reconciliation with before you can fully worship God?
3. Jesus said that lust begins in the heart (**Matt. 5:27-30**). What practices or guardrails help you keep your heart and mind pure? How can the group encourage one another in this area?
4. Jesus calls his followers to honesty and integrity (**Matt. 5:33-37**). What are some subtle ways dishonesty or half-truths creep into our lives? What does it look like to be a person whose words can be trusted? What does Jesus mean in vs. 37 when he says, "anything more is from the evil one?"
5. Jesus commands us to love our enemies (**Matt. 5:43-44**). Who are the "enemies" in your life, and what would it look like to move toward them in love instead of avoidance, anger, or

resentment? When you consider all of Jesus' teaching in this section, what challenges you the most?