



# SERMON NOTES

Week 2 March 23, 2025

**“The World’s Most Important Sermon”**

Matthew 5:5-7



## I. The Sermon on the Mount

- A. The world as it’s supposed to be is the \_\_\_\_\_ of God.
- B. In the \_\_\_\_\_ on the Mount, Jesus begins to lay out for his followers the missional, the ethical, and the spiritual life of the kingdom of God.
- C. While the message of Jesus is clear, it is not \_\_\_\_\_ to live out.

## II. Kingdom Mission

- A. In the Beatitudes, Jesus is saying that in all of these cases you can be happy today if you trust that in the Kingdom of God there is a great \_\_\_\_\_ of fortunes coming.
- B. Our \_\_\_\_\_ is to be salt and light.

## III. Kingdom Ethics

- A. Jesus is saying that you must have a righteousness that is \_\_\_\_\_.
- B. Jesus is calling his disciples to greater righteousness than the \_\_\_\_\_.
- C. Jesus calls us to live a life of \_\_\_\_\_ so we can change the world.

## IV. Kingdom Spirituality

- A. If we are not careful, our Spirituality becomes a tool to our own \_\_\_\_\_.
- B. Jesus is calling us to \_\_\_\_\_ on God’s kingdom and righteousness instead of money and worry.
- C. The most authoritative part of the Hebrew Bible is captured in that one line “*Do unto others as you would have them do unto \_\_\_\_\_.*”

### ***Things I Would Like to Remember About This Message***

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# ASBURY DAILY STUDY GUIDE *March 24-29, 2025*

## INTRODUCTION

The Sermon on the Mount is Jesus' most well-known teaching and one of history's most famous speeches ever. Jesus delivered this sermon 2,000 years ago, and the implications of these words are still shockingly relevant and meaningful.

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### Monday: Matthew 5:1-16

"Jesus' words may seem strange since he regards as 'blessed' or 'happy' those who are usually regarded as unfortunate. This alerts us to the topsy-turvy nature of Jesus' teaching. 'Hopeless' (or 'poor in spirit') refers to those who continue to look to God for help in the midst of their present, needy state." \* What helps you keep looking to God's world no matter how good or (more often) bad the news headlines of the day feel to you?

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### Tuesday: Matthew 5:17-48

The Old Testament prophets said, often, that God cares about the inner spirit driving our acts far more than any outer show of piety (see Isaiah 1:10-15; Jeremiah 6:20; Amos 5:21-24). Jesus hadn't come to "do away with" the law. He'd come to apply the law to the true source of both good and bad: our (often hidden) inner self. When have you realized that your outward behavior did not match what was inside you? How has Jesus changed your heart and mind for the better?

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### Wednesday: Matthew 6:1-18

"Fasting" most often means giving up food for 12 or 24 hours, and using mealtimes for prayer and Scripture study. (Note: for medical reasons, some people - notably pregnant women - should not fast from food without a doctor's guidance. Christians may also "fast" from their smartphone or other cherished activities rather than food.) How can this, like giving money or devoting time to worship, reinforce your commitment to make God your highest priority?

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### Thursday: Matthew 6:19-34

Scholar N. T. Wright said in Jesus' teaching "the point was... priorities. Put the world first, and you'll find it gets moth-eaten in your hands. Put God first, and you'll get the world thrown in... Living totally without worry sounds, to many people, as impossible as living totally without breathing... Here, at the heart of the Sermon on the Mount, is an invitation that surprisingly few people even try to take up." \*\* Are you willing to try to take up Jesus' invitation not to worry?

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### Friday: Matthew 7:1-14

Jesus never gave in to the urge to promise an easy road. Jesus' path, though not always the most comfortable, is always best in the long run. When have you had to choose between one way that was easy but wrong, and another that was difficult but right? What did you decide?

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## MOVING FORWARD

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus begins to lay out for his followers the missional, ethical, and the spiritual life of the kingdom of God. As Jesus followers, these words are our marching orders. But while the message of Jesus is clear, it is not easy to live out. This week as you read through the Sermon on the Mount, make note of areas that you are struggling with on your Spiritual journey. Then, focus on making some improvements during this season of Lent.

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*Answers to the sermon notes: IA) Kingdom, B) Sermon, C) easy. IIA) reversal, B) mission. IIIA) authentic, B) commandments, C) grace. IVA) narcissism, B) focus, C) you.*

\* Eugene Eung-Chun Park and Joel B. Green, study note on Matthew 5:1-3 in The CEB Study Bible. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2013, p. 12 NT

\*\* Wright, N.T., Matthew for Everyone, Part 1: Chapters 1-15 (The New Testament for Everyone) (pp. 66-67). Westminster John Knox Press. Kindle Edition.