

#### WEEK 3 | MURDER | MATTHEW 5:21-26

## Inspection - "What does it say?"

What phrase from long ago does Jesus use in verse 21? Why is this important? According to Jesus in verse 22, what is a real and present danger? What must a person do before offering gifts to God? (verse 24) How does verse 25 tell us deference should be handled? Besides God, to whom are we accountable? (verse 25)

## Observation - "What does it mean?"

Who are the brothers and sisters referred to in verse 22?
Jesus describes bringing a gift to the altar. What is the significance of an altar?
Consider the first murder in Genesis 4:1-8. What was the reason for murder?
Read Ephesians 4:26. How is it possible to be angry and not sin?
How did Jesus respond to injustice and accusation in Matthew 27:12-14? Why?

# Life Application – "What does it mean for me?"

Make a list of things that make you angry and pray for reconciliation.

Words do matter to God. Consider what words should be removed from your vocabulary.

Write a letter of reconciliation to someone needing to find forgiveness.

Pray for those who are in prison because of wrongdoing.

Memorize James 1:19-20.

# Meditation - "What does God say?"

Romans 12:18 Proverbs 15:1 Proverbs 29:11 Colossians 3:8

James 4:1-2 Psalms 37:8-9 Philippians 4:8 Matthew 6:14

#### **Supplication: What Can We Meditate?**

#### Psalm 37:1-22

Do not fret because of those who are evil or be envious of those who do wrong; for like the grass they will soon wither, like green plants they will soon die away.

Trust in the Lord and do good; dwell in the land and enjoy safe pasture. Take delight in the Lord, and He will give you the desires of your heart.

Commit your way to the Lord; trust in Him and He will do this: He will make your righteous reward shine like the dawn, your vindication like the noonday sun.

Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for Him; Do not fret when people succeed in their ways, when they carry out their wicked schemes.

Refrain from anger and turn from wrath; do not fret—it leads only to evil. For those who are evil will be destroyed, but those who hope in the Lord will inherit the land.

A little while, and the wicked will be no more; though you look for them, they will not be found. But the meek will inherit the land and enjoy peace and prosperity.

The wicked plot against the righteous and gnash their teeth at them; but the Lord laughs at the wicked, for He knows their day is coming.

The wicked draw the sword and bend the bow To bring down the poor and needy, to slay those whose ways are upright.

But their swords will pierce their own hearts, and their bows will be broken. Better the little that the righteous have than the wealth of many wicked; for the power of the wicked will be broken, but the Lord upholds the righteous.

The blameless spend their days under the Lord's care, and their inheritance will endure forever. In times of disaster they will not wither; in days of famine they will enjoy plenty.

But the wicked will perish: Though the Lord's enemies are like the flowers of the field, they will be consumed, they will go up in smoke.

The wicked borrow and do not repay, but the righteous give generously; those the Lord blesses will inherit the land, but those He curses will be destroyed.

#### **King David**