

Carrollton Christian Fellowship

Purpose of the Guide:

To help you study Matthew 5:17-48 deeply using the Inductive Bible Study Method, by observing, interpreting, and applying the text while cross-referencing with other scriptures.

By following this study guide, you will gain a deeper understanding of Matthew 5:17-48 and how to apply its principles to your life. Happy studying!

1. Pray for Guidance

Ask for the Holy Spirit to guide your heart and mind as you study the passage.



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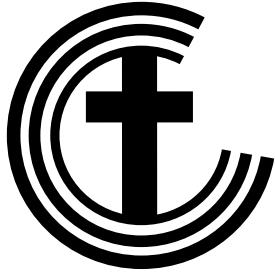
2. Observe the Text (Matthew 5:17-48)

Observation Questions:

1. Who is speaking in this passage?
2. What are the main themes or topics discussed by Jesus?
3. What comparisons or contrasts does Jesus make?
4. What repeated words or phrases do you notice?
5. What specific commands or instructions does Jesus give?

3. Interpret the Text

Break down the passage into sections for a detailed study:



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A. Matthew 5:17-20: Jesus and the Law

1. What did Jesus come to do with the Law?
2. How does Jesus describe the permanence of the Law?
3. What does Jesus say about the righteousness of the Pharisees and scribes?
4. Cross-references:

Matthew 3:15: Jesus' obedience to the Law

Romans 3:31: The Law upheld by faith

Psalm 119:89, 142: The eternal nature of God's Word

B. Matthew 5:21-26: Anger and Reconciliation

1. How does Jesus deepen the command against murder?
2. What does Jesus emphasize about anger and insults?
3. What is Jesus teaching on reconciliation?

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4. Cross-references:

- 1 John 3:15: Hatred equated with murder
- Ephesians 4:26-27: Do not let anger lead to sin
- Genesis 4:3-8: The story of Cain and Abel

C. Matthew 5:27-30: Adultery and Lust

- 1. How does Jesus clarify the command against adultery?
- 2. What drastic measures does Jesus suggest to prevent sin?
- 3. Cross-references:

- Job 31:1: Making a covenant with one's eyes
- James 1:14-15: The progression of sin from desire
- 2 Timothy 2:22: Fleeing youthful lusts

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D. Matthew 5:31-32: Divorce

1. What does Jesus teach about divorce?
2. How does this relate to the original intent of the Law?
3. Cross-references:

Malachi 2:16: God's view on divorce

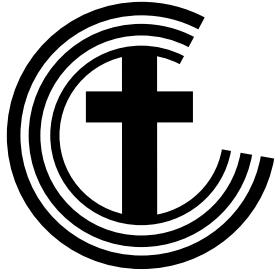
Matthew 19:3-9: Further teaching on divorce

Deuteronomy 24:1-4: The Law concerning divorce

E. Matthew 5:33-37: Oaths

1. What does Jesus teach about making oaths?
2. Why should our communication be truthful?
3. Cross-references:
 - James 5:12: Let your "yes" be yes
 - Proverbs 12:22: God detests lying lips
 - Leviticus 19:12: Command against false oaths

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F. Matthew 5:38-42: Retaliation

1. How does Jesus reinterpret the idea of "an eye for an eye"?
2. What principles does Jesus lay out for dealing with personal offenses?
3. Cross-references:

Romans 12:17-21: Not repaying evil for evil

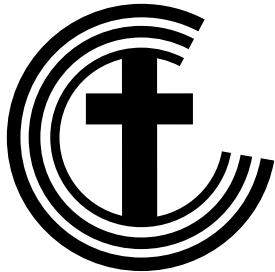
1 Peter 3:9: Not returning insult for insult

Proverbs 20:22: Waiting on the Lord for justice

G. Matthew 5:43-48: Love for Enemies

1. What does Jesus command regarding our enemies?
2. How should our love for others reflect God's love?
3. What does it mean to be perfect as the Father is perfect?

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4. Cross-references:

Romans 12:20: Feeding your enemy

Luke 6:27-36: Love your enemies

1 John 4:7-8: Love comes from God

4. Apply the Text

Application Questions:

1. What attitudes or behaviors has the Lord revealed in my life that He desires to change in light of this passage?
2. How can I practice reconciliation in my relationships?
3. In what ways does the Holy Spirit guard my heart against anger and lust?
4. How can the Holy Spirit work truthfulness into my daily interactions?

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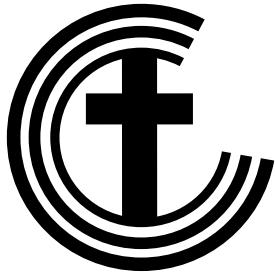


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5. How does the Holy Spirit's work love and kindness into my interactions with those who oppose or mistreat me?
6. How do I rely more on the Holy Spirit to develop these attributes in my life?

5. Reflect and Share

Spend time meditating on the key points and concepts you have learned. Share your insights and applications with a study group or a trusted friend to encourage and be encouraged.



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6. Pray for Transformation

Close with a prayer, asking God to help you apply what you have learned and to transform your heart to reflect His character more fully.

Example Prayer:

"Dear Lord, thank You for Your Word and the teachings of Jesus in the Sermon on the Mount. May Your Spirit internalize Your truths in my life and empower me to live them out daily. Empower me with Your strength and wisdom to reconcile with others, guard my heart against sin, and show genuine love to all, even my enemies. Empower me by Your Holy Spirit to be a light in this world and to reflect Your perfect love. In Jesus' name, Amen."
