

### CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY

Matthew 5:21-26

#### MAIN IDEAS FROM THIS WEEK

1. THE NEW COMMUNITY
2. THE DEADLY THREAT TO COMMUNITY
3. THE REAL HOPE FOR COMMUNITY

#### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS – Pick one or two of these to talk about as a group

1. What stood out to you most from this week's message? Why?
2. At the heart of Christian community is the pursuit of "shalom" or peace. This means that Christians aren't just trying to avoid conflict but instead are committed to an active, hard-fought, inconvenient pursuit of each other's well-being. Have you ever had another person committed to you in this way? If so, what is it like?
3. What makes the idea of privatized spirituality so appealing in our culture? How do you see individualism informing your own Christian walk? What are some reasons why privatized Christianity is impossible?
4. The deadly threat to community that we see in Matt. 5:21-26 is our own anger and pride. What sort of people do you get most angry with? What does your anger look like? Are you able to see the connection between your anger and pride?
5. In Matt. 5:23-24, Jesus gives an example of seeking reconciliation with someone who has something against you. What does it look like to ask for forgiveness in a way that has the other person's well-being in mind and can lead to genuine reconciliation? Do you have anyone you currently need to reconcile with?
6. The humility and security required for Christian community to be a reality is only possible through the gospel of Jesus. What is the gospel? What is it about the gospel that makes us humble? What is it about the gospel that makes us secure?
7. What is one specific way that you can actively pursue the well-being of a fellow Christian this week?

**A TRUTH TO TAKE WITH YOU:** Jesus is the Prince of Peace. We are able to pursue the well-being of others because He has already secured our well-being through His death and resurrection.