

Name: _____

Date: _____

SERMON ON THE MOUNT (1)

“You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden.” (Matthew 5:14)

Objectives

Knowledge of God's Will	Understand the meaning of salt and light, and that murder begins in the heart.
Knowledge of God	Know what it means to commit adultery. Recognize the importance of oaths.
Good Work	God is light and all-knowing. He searches our hearts. Illuminate the life that we have in Christ. Avoid immorality by depending on God. Guard our hearts, and be truthful.

A. Salt and Light (Mt 5:13–16)

1. *Salt*: As Christians we can affect the world the same way salt can enhance, flavor, and preserve food. At the same time, we cannot allow ourselves to become contaminated by the world we live in. We must strive to affect the world according to God's will, but never become part of it.
2. *Light*: Light, by nature, makes things visible, illuminates, and turns darkness into light. God is the true light (Jn 8:12), so as His children, we must reflect that same light (2 Cor 4:6; Mt 5:16). God wants us to bring His qualities into the world, outside the walls of our homes and churches.

Life Application: *How do we become the salt and light of the world?*

B. Murder Begins in the Heart (Mt 5:21–26)

According to Jesus' teachings, harboring anger against another deserves the same punishment as physically murdering someone. Letting go of our hatred is not an easy task, but Jesus teaches us to reconcile with (vv. 23–24) and love our enemies (vv. 38–42).

1. *Anger*: We can be angry without sinning, unless we choose to disobey God's word.
2. *Reconciliation*: Reconciliation is highly regarded in God's eyes. He demands that we always reconcile with our brethren before offering our prayers to Him.

Life Application: *Why and how must we reconcile?*

C. Adultery (Mt 5:27–32)

Adultery is not only a physical act; in God's eyes, adultery has already been committed when it is conceived in the heart and mind. All lustful thoughts come from the heart, so we must guard ourselves carefully (Prov 4:23). We can avoid immorality by knowing the will of God (1 Thess 4:3–7), glorifying God in our body (1 Cor 6:19–20), putting off our old self (Eph 4:22), and being obedient and holy children (1 Pet 1:14–16).

Life Application: *What are some practical steps we can take to avoid sexual immorality?*

D. Oaths (Mt 5:33–37)

Swearing is a reflection of our innermost hearts, while oaths are used to cover up a person's lack of personal integrity. Both are sins in God's eyes, and both reveal a person's true character.

Life Application: *How do we combat lying according to Ephesians 4:22–25 and Romans 12:2?*

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Lesson 5 Homework Assignment

Sermon on the Mount (1)

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Read							
Pray							

Memory Verse (Matthew 5:14):

1. According to the memory verse, how are we to act as the light of the world?
2. What is our duty as the salt of the world?
3. What does Jesus teach us about anger? What are the dangers of anger?
4. Where does adultery begin according to God? What are four ways to guard ourselves against it?
5. What can you change about yourself in order to better reflect God's light in the world?
6. What action will you take during this week or quarter to try and change this?