

## Family Discipleship Resource

February 18-24

(Matthew 5:21-26)



### **G** – Gather for Prayer

Father,

*Forgive me for the hate that often creeps into my heart against others. Show me how to love those around me the way that you do.*

*In Jesus' Name, Amen*

### **R** – Read the Text (Matthew 5:21-26)

*“You have heard that the ancients were told, ‘YOU SHALL NOT COMMIT MURDER’ and ‘Whoever commits murder shall be liable to the court.’<sup>22</sup> But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother shall be guilty before the court; and whoever says to his brother, ‘You good-for-nothing,’ shall be guilty before the supreme court; and whoever says, ‘You fool,’ shall be guilty enough to go into the fiery hell.<sup>23</sup> Therefore if you are presenting your offering at the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you,<sup>24</sup> leave your offering there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother, and then come and present your offering.<sup>25</sup> Make friends quickly with your opponent at law while you are with him on the way, so that your opponent may not hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the officer, and you be thrown into prison.<sup>26</sup> Truly I say to you, you will not come out of there until you have paid up the last cent.”*

### **O** – Observe what God has said

***What does the command “do not commit murder” include?***

***Why do you think God is so displeased with hate?***

### **W** – Work on Application

After reciting the law, “do not murder,” Jesus reveals that it is not enough to literally not kill anybody to satisfy this particular ordinance. Rather, one does not completely obey his law unless he does speak hatefully against another. Consider that Jesus equates hateful remarks like “you good for nothing” or “you fool” with cold-blooded murder saying that the penalty for both is equal. Being guilty of these things places a rift in our relationship, not only with those around us, but with God Himself.

***How does hate for other impact our relationship with God?***

***In what ways can we show love as the people of God toward others?***

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Family Weekly Memory Verse: *“By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another”-John 13:35*