

March 22nd, 2015

The Bible Matthew 5:17-20

Introduction

Believing in the Bible can be a challenge for a non-believer and believer alike. However, Jesus firmly believed and affirmed the scriptures by his example and through his teachings.

Discussion Questions

1. What is the most challenging question you've ever been asked about your faith? How has the sermon series helped you formulate a new response if asked the question again?
2. In 1 Peter 3:15 we read, "But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect." David presented three questions for us to answer. Why do I have hope in Jesus? Why do I believe the Bible is so important? Why is the church the only hope for the world?
3. David said, "It's not good enough to say to an unbeliever 'it's true because the Bible said so.'" Do you agree? Why or why not? How is it possible to worship the Bible instead of worshipping Jesus?
4. Read Matthew 5:17-20. In the Old Testament, there were three categories of law; 1) Ceremonial—related specifically to Israel's worship. 2) Civil—applied to daily living, and 3) Moral—(such as the Ten Commandments, the direct command of God), required obedience. If Jesus did not come to abolish the law, does that mean all the Old Testament laws still apply to us today? Discuss ways that Jesus fulfilled the law, such as prophecies he completed, Old Testament "rules" he corroborated, laws he adhered to, etc.
5. How has your relationship with Jesus and your perception of the Bible changed as your faith has grown? In what ways could you improve your relationship with Jesus and your perception of the Bible?
6. Hebrews 4:12 states, "For the word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart." Jesus took the Bible seriously. Why do you believe the Bible is so important?

Conclusion

"And so it is with people. The grass withers, and the flowers fade, but the word of our God stand forever." Isaiah 40:7-8