

DATE: April 7, 2024

TITLE: Lex Talionis

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 5:38-42

SPEAKER: Patrick Mostek

FAITH COMMUNITY CHURCH SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

OPENING PRAYER

ICE BREAKER: Tell the group about a time in your life when you wanted to get revenge on someone.

THINK BACK: Referring back to this week's sermon... What is the BIG IDEA of the Scripture AS IT WAS TAUGHT THIS WEEK? Was there anything that left you with questions?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Read Matthew 5:38-42

1. Have you ever thought about if Christians can engage in violence? What do you think? Support your view from Scripture.
2. In the sermon Pastor Patrick said that conflict often reveals our Christian maturity. Do you agree or disagree? How can viewing conflict as a test help us honor God?
3. Have you ever heard the phrase 'an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth' before? What did you think it meant? What did it actually mean?
4. Why do you think the Pharisees misinterpreted the passage? How can we avoid falling into the trap of the Pharisees in misinterpreting the Bible?
5. How do you typically view the government? What does Romans 13 say about the government?
6. Have you ever heard some excuse wrong behavior by saying, 'that's just who I am'? What does the Bible have to say about that attitude.
7. Are Christians prohibited from using their rights? Why or why not?
8. Why should Christians be known for their generosity?

APPLICATION

Think about what most caught your attention in the text or discussion. Why is God catching your attention with this at this point in your life? What does God want you to know or do? What's one thing from this text that you could say to an unbeliever about who God is?

PRAYER

Ask people for specific prayer requests. Pray for needs and for applications of the text. Ask for volunteers who would like to pray for those people and requests.

SHEPHERDING

Check the roster and see who is not there. Does the group know why someone is not there? Are there needs that can be met by the group? Specific prayer requests? Ask for someone to reach out and say, "We missed you."

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE:

Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life.
No one comes to the Father except through me.
John 14:6

REMINDERS

Small Group Checklist

- Ask about ideas to serve in some way together. Serve 1x every six weeks or so.
- Encourage people to invite friends or neighbors to your group!! One way to reach 'out' together is to welcome people 'in.'
- Discuss childcare, if needed.
- Talk about any upcoming group meals or activities.

Check the bulletin, monthly newsletter and events page on the website for ways that you can get plugged in, as well as events here at FCC. Here are a couple of those things:

- Not yet a member of FCC? Register online to take our membership class on Sat, April 13th! Our next Covenant Member Meeting and Inductions will be on May 5th!
- Retreat with us in May! Anyone 18+ is invited to join us at Woodlake Camp & Retreat Center on May 3-5th! More information and registration can be found online!
- Join us at our next Faith Training Class on Sunday, April 14th following 2nd service. This class, taught by Pastor Patrick, will focus on Family Discipleship and is applicable to newlyweds, anyone with kids, grandkids, or those who work with kids. Cost is \$5/person. Register online.