

## Life Group / Reflection Questions

### **Read It:**

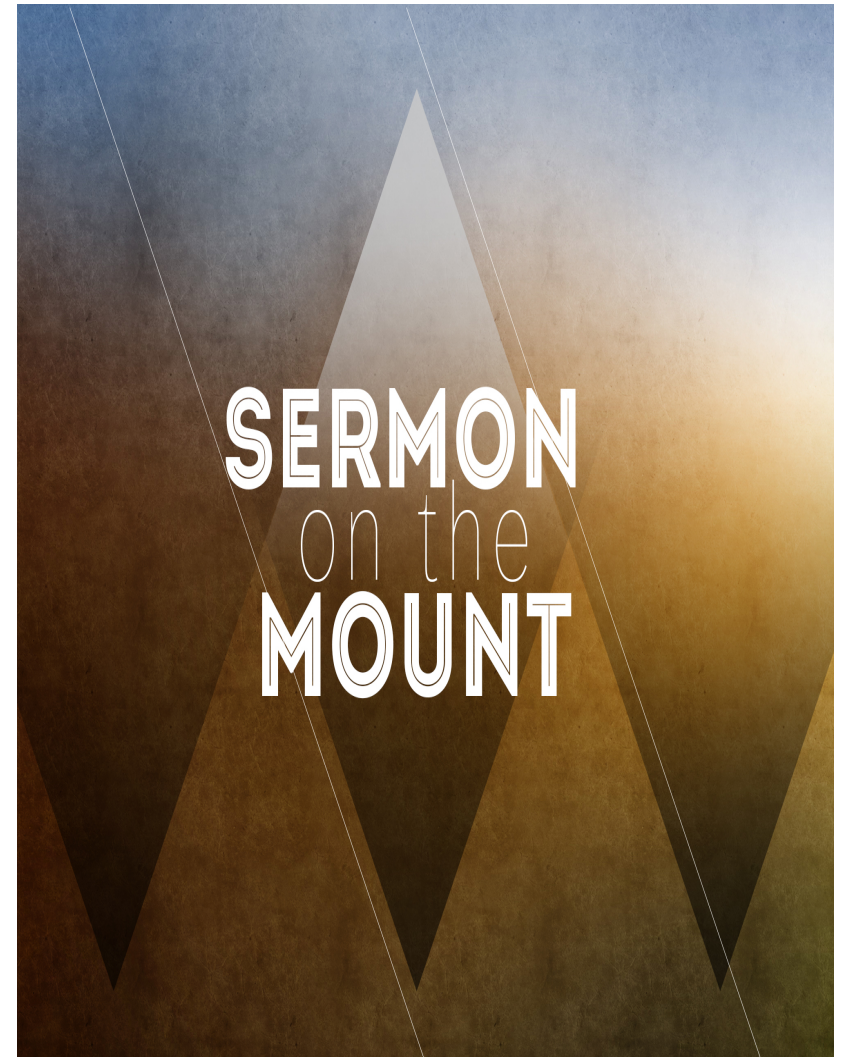
Spend some time in prayer. Ask God to open your heart to become more like him. Spend a few minutes reading over Matthew 5: 38-42. What is God speaking to you from these verses?

### **Study It:**

- *Have you ever been wronged or suffered unjustly? What does your heart lead you to seek grace or justice?*
- *When we refuse to feed evil with revenge it loses it's power. How have you seen this truth in your life? Read Romans 12:19-21*
- *When you think of the word meekness what image do you see? How does this compare to the example that Jesus gives us?*
- *Loved People Love People: We can only love others from the love we experince. Where is your love meter? Are you full or on empty?*
- *Saved People Save People: How has the grace of Jesus inspired you to show grace to those in your life?*
- *Jesus gives us 5 examples of how to overcome evil with meekness. Which example do you feel applies to you most today? Why?*
- *Of the 5 examples that Jesus gives which one is the hardest for you? Which one is the easiest? Why?*

### **Next Steps:**

- *What steps do you need to take this week to respond to evil with meekness?*



**Sunday June 14<sup>th</sup>, 2015**  
***“Overcoming Evil with Meekness”***  
**Matthew 5:33-37**

**Sermon on the Mount**  
**“Overcoming Evil with Meekness”**  
**MATTHEW 5:33-37**

Sermon on the Mount is an invitation into Jesus’ Kingdom:

- **A Society where Jesus is King and we are not**
  
- **A Society where its citizens imitate and reflect the Heart of Jesus**

**Matthew 5:38-40 ~ Retaliation**

<sup>38</sup> “You have heard that it was said, ‘An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.’ <sup>39</sup> But I say to you, Do not resist the one who is evil. But if anyone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to him the other also. <sup>40</sup> And if anyone would sue you and take your tunic, let him have your cloak as well. <sup>41</sup> And if anyone forces you to go one mile, go with him two miles. <sup>42</sup> Give to the one who begs from you, and do not refuse the one who would borrow from you.

**Kingdom Truth: Evil is Overcome by Meekness**

- **Matthew 5:5** “Blessed are the Meek for they will inherit the earth”
- **Meekness:** Humility, Submission, Restrained Power
- **Matthew 26:53-54** Do you think that I cannot appeal to my Father, and he will at once send me more than twelve legions of angels? <sup>54</sup> But how then should the Scriptures be fulfilled, that it must be so?”

**2 Realities that Inspire us to Meekness**

- 1. Our Identity: Loved People Love People**
  
- 2. Our Mission: Saved People Save People**

**How to Overcoming Evil with Meekness**

**1. Gracious Endurance – Surrender your right to Justice**

- **1 Peter 2:19** For this is a gracious thing, when, mindful of God, one endures sorrows while suffering unjustly.

**2. Self Sacrifice – Surrender your Pride**

- **James 4:6** God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.
- **1 Corinthians 4:10-13** Our dedication to Christ makes us look like fools ...

**3. Radical Generosity – Surrender your Comfort**

- **Luke 6:38** “Forgive others, and you will be forgiven. <sup>38</sup> Give, and you will receive. Your gift will return to you in full—pressed down, shaken together to make room for more, running over, and poured into your lap. The amount you give will determine the amount you get back”

**4. Bear others Burdens - Surrender your Time**

- **Galatians 6:2** Share each other’s burdens, and in this way obey the law of Christ. <sup>3</sup> If you think you are too important to help someone, you are only fooling yourself. You are not that important.

**5. Merciful Compassion - Surrender your Judgment**

- **Proverbs 3:27** Do not withhold good from those who deserve it when it’s in your power to help them.