**Pastor Demetric Felton Sr April 2, 2023**

**Jesus Teaches On Murder, Anger, And Reconciliation**

Matthew 5:21-26

**Key Truth:** Murder isn’t just an act; it’s a symptom of a bigger issue of the heart. Our anger reveals our heart, that must be changed by Jesus alone.

**Jesus Correctly Interprets Exodus 20:13:**

1. Jesus is teaching how Kingdom citizens relate to one another

 in God’s Kingdom.

2. Jesus teaches that God is concerned about the heart’s attitude

 as well as our actions.

3. Jesus wants us to deal with unresolved anger, so that we can

 have a right relationship with Him and others.

4. Jesus teaches that we can murder someone with our words.

 A. Our words have the power to assassinate someone’s

 character and dignity.

**What We Learn:**

1. Don’t allow anger to abide in your heart. Ephesians 4:26-27

2. Don’t allow anger to control your tongue. James 1:19-21

3. Relational reconciliation is necessary for authentic worship.

 A. We must go and try to make things right with the person.

 Romans 12:18

 B. Be proactive in settling disputes with one another.

**Taking It Beyond The Walls:** Ask God to reveal areas of your heart where anger and resentment lie. Confess that sin and be reconciled to God and to one another. Pray for our church, that God would create an environment of openness and reconciliation, so that issues of anger would be handled with loving obedience to Jesus.

**Connection Group Homework:**

Looking back at your notes, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

What is the most ridiculous thing you got angry about? Why do you think you reacted the way you did?

In your life, what is anger usually a sign of? Discontent? Not getting your way? Hurt pride? Explain.

What is the best advice you have been given on how to deal with anger?

Read Exodus 20:13. How did Jesus interpret the commandment not to commit murder?

Before Jesus’ teaching did you equate murder with anger as Jesus does, or do you think He is being extreme? Explain your thoughts.

Read Genesis 4:1-8: From Cain and Abel’s example what does anger do to our relationship with those we are angry with? What does it do to our relationship with God?

Read Romans 12:18: Is there anyone who you need to reconcile with in order to experience authentic worship of God?

How hard is it for you to admit when you are wrong and ask for forgiveness?

How can Jesus’ teaching on anger help you share the gospel this week? Who can you share it with?