SDG Sermon Discussion Guide

Sunday, November 1, 2026

Life in the Kingdom
Neighbours, Not Rivals

Read/Reflect

1. Read Matthew 5:21-26. While it's being read (or read it again to hear) what word, image, or instruction stands out to you in this passage? Why?

2. Jesus takes a command people thought they were keeping ("Do not murder") and ties it directly to internal attitudes like anger and insults. Why do you think Jesus chose anger/murder as the very first example when explaining Kingdom righteousness?

3. What's the difference between Jesus forbidding calling someone, "You fool!" and what he says about the Pharisees in Matthew 23:17?

Explore

4. Is all anger a sin? When does anger cross the line from being a "righteous" response to injustice into an "unrighteous" destructive emotion? What do anger, insults, and contempt reveal about how we see another person?

5. How easily does frustration or annoyance in your own life escalate into bitterness or contempt for someone else? What usually triggers that shift for you?

6. In what ways are we tempted to practice a "minimal obedience"—focusing only on outward actions while letting our thoughts and hearts harbor malice toward others?

7. Jesus describes an instance where you happen to remember someone has a grudge against you just when you are worshipping God (Mt.5:23-24). Why is relational brokenness so disruptive to our relationship and worship with God?

8. What might actively seeking a neighbour's good look like this week for you?

Pray

- Ask God to expose the grudges, contempt, and the desire to control that keep us from loving our neighbours.

- Thank God for his reconciling work with us through Jesus and pray for the Holy Spirit to teach us to see people as brothers and sisters and not as rivals.