



Matthew 5:21-26 (HSBC)

“You have heard that it was said to our ancestors, Do not murder, and whoever murders will be subject to judgment. But I tell you, everyone who is angry with his brother will be subject to judgment. And whoever says to his brother, ‘Fool!’ will be subject to the Sanhedrin. But whoever says, ‘You moron!’ will be subject to hellfire. So if you are offering your gift on the altar, and there you remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled with your brother, and then come and offer your gift. Reach a settlement quickly with your adversary while you’re on the way with him, or your adversary will hand you over to the judge, the judge to the officer, and you will be thrown into prison. I assure you: You will never get out of there until you have paid the last penny!

Murder on the GraceLife Express
Matthew 5:21-26

I. An Action we should all Resist

Verse 21 - “You have heard that it was said to our ancestors, Do not murder, and whoever murders will be subject to judgment.

Genesis 9:6 (ESV)

“Whoever sheds the blood of man, by man shall his blood be shed, for God made man in his own image.”

Matthew 15:18-19 (ESV)

But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this defiles a person. For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false witness, slander.

II. An Attitude we should all Confront

Verse 22 – “But I tell you, everyone who is angry with his brother will be subject to judgment. And whoever says to his brother, ‘Fool!’ will be subject to the Sanhedrin. But whoever says, ‘You moron!’ will be subject to hellfire.”

1 John 3:14-15 (ESV)

We know that we have passed out of death into life, because we love the brothers. Whoever does not love abides in death. Everyone who hates his brother is a murderer,

A Biblical Understanding of Fractured Relationships:

- The Certainty

Verse 23 – “...your brother has something against you...”

- The Priority

Verse 23-24 – “If you are offering your gift on the altar, and there you remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there in front of the altar. “

- The Responsibility

Verse 24-25 – "...First go and be reconciled with your brother, and then come and offer your gift. Reach a settlement quickly with your adversary..."

When we fail to heed this instruction:

- It will lead to More Broken Relationships

Proverbs 26:21 (NIV)

"As charcoal to embers and as wood to fire, so is a quarrelsome man for kindling strife."

- It Restricts God's Forgiveness

Matthew 6:14,15 (NIV)

"For if you forgive men when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive men their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins"

- It weakens Our Testimony
- It opens a Door for Satan's Influence

James 3:14-16 (NIV)

But if you harbor bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast about it or deny the truth. Such "wisdom" does not come down from heaven but is of the devil. For where you have envy and selfish ambition, there you find disorder and every evil practice.