

13—Special Study: The Sermon on the Mount and Marriage

Matthew 5-7

1. The Beatitudes show us how we can be truly “happy” in Jesus. How do the attributes in the following passages contribute to a happier marriage?

- “*poor in spirit*” (5:3)—
- “*mourn*” (5:4)—
- “*meeek*” (5:5)—
- “*hunger and thirst for righteousness*” (5:6)—
- “*merciful*” (5:7)—
- “*pure in heart*” (5:8)—
- “*peacemakers*” (5:9)—
- “*persecuted for righteousness’ sake*” (5:10)—

2. If you are married to an unbeliever, how can the words of Jesus in Matthew 5:13-16 be helpful to you as you seek to win them to Christ? What do other passages say (1 Peter 3:1-2; Ephesians 6:1-4)?



3. How can hatred, insults, and name-calling affect your marriage? How does Jesus ask us to approach any disputes which threaten our union (Matthew 5:21-26)?

4. What can unbridled lust and affairs do to a marriage? How do the words of Jesus in Matthew 5:27-32 help us to avoid such danger zones?

5. Trust is essential to a strong and healthy marriage. How do lies, half-truths, exaggerations, misrepresentations, or omissions affect our trust? What does Jesus encourage (Matthew 5:33-37)?

6. It is very tempting, when insulted, to respond back with the same insults. Sometimes even those in our homes can become our enemies. How do the words of Jesus in Matthew 5:38-48 help us in this?

7. How can the concepts found within the Lord's Prayer help our marriages (Matthew 6:9-13)? Do healthy couples pray together (see 1 Peter 3:7)?

8. Jesus says a few words which apply to both hypercritical and hypocritical judgment in Matthew 7:1-5. How can these types of judgments negatively impact marriages? What should we be careful to do before we make judgments?

9. The Golden Rule of Matthew 7:12 is a beautiful ethic to help in our relationships. What are some of the things we will do as we apply this rule to our marriage?

10. Storms of life will most certainly threaten your marriage. Yet, what hope is given to those who build their homes on the rock in Matthew 7:24-28? How do you think or how have you seen the Sermon on the Mount has helped or will help your marriage?