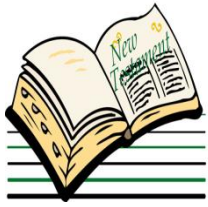


Sermon Notes



Title: "The Sixth Commandment and Reconciliation"

Text: Exodus 20:13; Matthew 5:21-26

Theme: God considers estrangement and lack of reconciliation so serious that He declares it must not be permitted. Murder is but the highest expression of anger and the failure to reconcile. Reconciliation means life, and life is the essence of the Sixth Commandment.

I. Exposition of Texts

II. Applications

- A. Retaining _____ and refusing to be _____ makes you just as liable to the _____ as a murderer.

- B. Failure to reconcile makes _____ your _____ because He reconciled you with _____.

- C. Reconciliation with a brother or sister in Christ takes _____ over _____.

Questions to Discuss and Consider at Home or in Small Group:

1. What is the Sixth Commandment (v. 13)?
2. What does it mean to murder?
3. Is there a difference between murder and killing? If so, what?
4. How do we know that this commandment means more than taking the life of another person?
5. Where in the New Testament does Jesus address the Sixth Commandment directly?
6. What mistaken or incomplete idea did Jesus seek to correct about the Sixth Commandment (Matthew 5:22)?
7. What did "Raca" mean?
8. What did Jesus say about the person who called someone a "fool" (Matthew 5:22c)?
9. If you know someone has something against you, what does Jesus say you are to do (Matthew 5:23-24)?
10. Why is failure to seek reconciliation a serious matter in God's eyes?
11. What priority does Jesus place on reconciliation (Matthew 5:24)?
12. How do you typically handle the wounds and offenses people perpetrate against you?
13. Why do you think a person would ignore reconciliation rather than seek it?
14. What potential obstacles might one face when seeking reconciliation?
15. What have you experienced in your own life as a consequence of retaining your anger and failing to be reconciled with others?