

Sermon Series: "Counter Culture"

Text: Matthew 5-7

Part 2: "Religion -or- Relationship" – (Message #1)

Message 11: "Curing Conflict"

\* KEY SCRIPTURE PASSAGE: **MATTHEW 5:17-26**

\* KEY QUESTION: What does Jesus *REALLY* expect & desire from me?

\* KEY IDEA: The difference between "religious activity" --vs-- "spiritual relationship"

\* Matthew 7:21

\* IMPORTANT TEXT BREAKDOWN:

- Matthew 5:3-12 = God DESCRIBES our CHARACTER
- Matthew 5:13-16 = God DEFINES our MISSION
- Matthew 5:21-26 = God DEVELOPS our RELATIONSHIPS

\* IMPORTANT CONTRAST:

- The PHARISEES were concerned with OBJECTIVE ACTIVITY and OUTWARD ACTIONS
- JESUS was concerned with SUBJECTIVE THOUGHTS and INWARD MOTIVES

\* RIGHTEOUS LIVING in the area of RELATIONSHIPS & CONFLICT:

1) Realize that \_\_\_\_\_ is a \_\_\_\_\_

- Matthew 5:22 / Ephesians 4:26a

2) Realize that \_\_\_\_\_ is my \_\_\_\_\_

- Matthew 5:23-24

3) Realize that being reconciled is \_\_\_\_\_ than being \_\_\_\_\_

- Matthew 5:25 / Ephesians 4:26b

\* 3 Tests to Pass Before Responding:

1) Is it \_\_\_\_\_ ?

2) Is it \_\_\_\_\_ ?

3) Is it \_\_\_\_\_ ?