

KINGDOM LIVING - A RESURRECTED WORD

As preached on Sunday, August 23rd

Read: Matthew 5:17-20

1. What is the difference between being serious about the Law (the commands of scripture) and being legalistic?
2. In v.17, Jesus emphasizes that he has not come to “abolish” the Law or the Prophets. Why would he say this? Were there others who were seeking to do so? If so, how would someone go about abolishing the Law and the Prophets?
3. What do you think Jesus means when he says that he has come to “fulfill” the Law and the Prophets? What does the word “fulfill” mean? How is it related to resurrection?
4. Jesus addresses believers in v.19. What is the relationship between teaching and practice? What do you think the experiential difference will be between being “least” in the kingdom of heaven and “great” in the kingdom of heaven?
5. In v.20, Jesus refers to the “righteousness” of the Pharisees and the teachers of the law. What was their righteousness like? Is it possible for our righteousness to surpass theirs? What was Jesus’ teaching about obedience in v.20? What was he teaching about grace?
6. Take a moment to read Philippians 3:1-9. How does Paul’s teaching here relate to what Jesus is teaching in this week’s passage? How does his teaching relate to you?
7. How do you think it would look for us to live out the resurrected teachings of Jesus in our day to day living?