

Sermon Discussion Questions, April 17, 2011
Sermon on the Mount Series-Week Nine
Obedience in the Toughest Areas of Life, Dr. Rod MacIlvaine
Matthew 5: 21-47

REMEMBERING THE VISION – Jesus calls us to a comprehensive spiritual maturity in His power. Matthew 5:20; 48

1. Is it easy or hard for you to obey? Why or why not? Think practically and spiritually.
2. Read Matthew 5:20 and 5:48. What do you think these verses mean? How does one achieve righteousness and perfection?

ACCEPTING HIS CHALLENGE – Jesus calls us to obey Him in six tough areas. Matthew 5:21-47

3. What are the six tough areas of obedience that Jesus addressed? Why do you think He chose these six? Are these easy or hard to obey? Why? With which one(s) do you struggle?
4. Where does sin begin in the life of the believer? In order to obey, what must a Christ-follower do? How do you deal with these hard areas of obedience?

ACTING ON HIS WORDS – Observe the principle of proactive discipleship.

5. How does one develop the character of a proactive disciple? Be specific.
6. How do we practically live the way Jesus demands in Matthew 5:21-47? Why should we live this way?

*****for more application see chart on page two**

Matthew 5:21-47 – Self-Evaluation

How Am I Doing at Obeying in the Six Areas?

<p>Area #1 – Obeying God even when we’re angry. 5:21-26</p> <p><i>Addresses power</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is there anyone with whom I am angry right now? • Is there someone who is angry with me? • What can I do to make things right? <p>➔ What would obedience look like in those relationships?</p>
<p>Area #2 – Obeying God in the face of lust. 5:27-30</p> <p><i>Addresses sex</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To what extent is my thought life under control? • Am I looking at things I shouldn’t look at on the internet? • Am I in chat rooms I shouldn’t be in? <p>➔ What would it take for me to obey in this area?</p>
<p>Area #3 – Obeying God in our marriage. 5:31-32</p> <p><i>Addresses power</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Am I taking proactive responsibility to build my marriage right now? • How might my spouse say that I am doing as a partner? <p>➔ What would obedience look like in my marriage or family?</p>
<p>Area #4 – Obeying God in the commitments we make. 5:33-37</p> <p><i>Addresses money</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where does greed dominate my life? • Where am I tempted to lie to gain advantage? <p>➔ What would obedience look like in my business and financial dealings?</p>
<p>Area #5 – Obeying God when we’d rather get even. 5:38-42</p> <p><i>Addresses power</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Am I willing to accept certain levels of injustice as part of living in a fallen world? • Am I willing to accept certain levels of injustice as a Christian? <p>➔ What would obedience look like in this area?</p>
<p>Area #6 – Obeying God when we have enemies. 5:43-47</p> <p><i>Addresses power</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do I have any enemies? Who are they? • How can I “love” them? <p>➔ What do I need to do to be a conduit of common grace to them?</p>