

BUT I TELL YOU ...
(The Beatitudes In Action)

Matthew 5:21-37

Key verse: 37

1. What was the standard of the law in Jesus' time? (21; Ex 20:13) What does it mean to be "subject to judgment"? Why is anger like murder? (22) How does Jesus show the importance of reconciliation before worship and other life matters? (23-24) How should God's people resolve conflicts with others? (25-26; Ro 12:18)
2. Which commandment is Jesus talking about in verse 27? (Ex 20:14) What was Jesus' standard of purity? (28) What type of spiritual and mental warfare do we need in the battle for purity? (29-30; Ro 8:13; 1Sa 16:7) What is the ultimate consequence of lust?
3. What was the standard of divorce in Jesus' time? (31; Dt 24:1) Think about how people justify divorce. How is Jesus' standard and hope different? (32; Ro 5:3; Mt 22:30)
4. What was the situation of oath-taking in Jesus' day? (33) Why should we not make vows? (34-36; Jn 8:44) What should we do instead? How believable is your 'Yes' or 'No'? (37; Jn 7:18; Jn 14:6)

Bonus reflection:

Review each section and how they correspond to the eight beatitudes.