

Questions for a “Look Back” at the Sermon on the Mount

- How would you sum up Jesus’ teaching in His “Sermon on the Mount”?
- How does the Sermon on the Mount fit into the context of the “Law and the Prophets” (the Old Testament)—and the “rest of the story” in the book of Matthew and, more broadly, with all of Scripture?
- How would you describe the “beatitudes” and their implications for the followers of Jesus?
- What two metaphors did Jesus use to describe the expected role and influence of His followers in the world?
- What six areas of the law did Jesus address with His “You have heard...but I say...” declarations—and how do these declarations illustrate what it really means to attain “true righteousness:?”
- In what way, according to Stott, might Jesus’ teaching on “an eye for an eye,” and “loving your neighbor as yourself” bring us to “the highest point” in the Sermon on the Mount?
- How did Jesus’ teaching on “almsgiving,” and prayer, and fasting—three basic components of Jewish piety—raise the problem of “religiosity”?
- What did Jesus teach about “how to pray”—and does it shed new light, or in any way change your view, on praying the “Lord’s Prayer”?
- What did Jesus teach about “storing up treasures”—and particularly with its connection with “materialism,” and worry and anxiety?
- What did you learn from Jesus’ teaching about “judging others”—and how does this relate to confronting sin, and standing for the truths of the Bible, as well as keeping the “golden rule”?
- What did Jesus say about who would, and would not, enter into the kingdom of heaven—and on what basis?
- How did the crowds respond to the Sermon on the Mount, and what does it say about who Jesus was (and is)?
- What’s the most important thing you, personally, will take away from our study of the Sermon on the Mount?