

“Aha Moments About Jesus – His Sermons”
Matthew 5-7
Sermon Discussion Questions, p. 1

Hope Fellowship
February 8, 2015

Getting Started

1. What insight, principle, or observation from this Sunday’s message did you find to be the most helpful, eye-opening, troubling or interesting? Explain.

2. Discuss Rick Warren’s observation that “Jesus was a relevant preacher because he scratched where people itched.” Do you agree or disagree? Why?
 - a. What kinds of questions, needs and hurts would you like today’s pastors to address?

 - b. Is there one topic or issue in particular that you would like Pastor Peter to address in a sermon? If so, let him know.

3. Is the desire for revenge in the world and in us as big a problem as Pastor Peter made it out to be in Sunday’s message?
 - Have you ever felt the desire for “an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth”? If, by God’s grace, you have never wanted revenge, can you imagine a situation in which you might?

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Going Deeper

1. Read Matthew 5:38-47
 - a. Which verse(s) really speaks to you today? Why?
 - b. How do you respond to those who think that a literal application of Jesus’ teachings would turn people into doormats?
2. What is your reaction to the following two quotes?
 - a. “I have forgiven and God will help me to love everybody. It is not easy, but it is God that will give us the grace to love.”
Damaris Atsen, whose husband was murdered by the Boko Haram in anti-Christian riots in Nigeria last month.
 - b. “While seeking revenge, dig two graves – one for yourself.”
Douglas Horton, a Protestant pastor (1891-1968) in the U.S. who was known for his commitment to the ecumenical movement.
3. Is there anything you need to do as a result of what you heard and learned from Jesus about enemies and vengeance this week?