

Date: July 17-18, 2021

Title: "Unknown God Week 2"

Have Fun Together - Ice Breakers:

1. Tell us your Ikea furniture horror story (or other furniture horror story.)
2. What kind of phone was your very first cell phone?

Message Summary:

Jesus did not come to lower the standard, instead he came to raise it by showing us what the standard really is - perfection. We fall short of that standard, and **we need someone to step in for us. Jesus is the only one who can.**

Read The Bible Together - Key Verses:

"Don't misunderstand why I have come. I did not come to abolish the law of Moses or the writings of the prophets. No, I came to accomplish their purpose. I tell you the truth, until heaven and earth disappear, not even the smallest detail of God's law will disappear until its purpose is achieved."

Matthew 5:17-18

<https://www.bible.com/bible/116/MAT.5.17.NLT>

"But I warn you—unless your righteousness is better than the righteousness of the teachers of religious law and the Pharisees, you will never enter the Kingdom of Heaven!"

Matthew 5:20

<https://www.bible.com/bible/116/MAT.5.20.NLT>

"You have heard that our ancestors were told, 'You must not murder. If you commit murder, you are subject to judgment.' But I say, if you are even angry with someone, you are subject to judgment! If you call someone an idiot, you are in danger of being brought before the court. And if you curse someone, you are in danger of the fires of hell."

Matthew 5:21-22

<https://www.bible.com/bible/116/MAT.5.21.NLT>

"But I say, anyone who even looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart. So if your eye—even your good eye—causes you to lust, gouge it out and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell."

Matthew 5:28-29

<https://www.bible.com/bible/116/MAT.5.28.NLT>

“And if your hand—even your stronger hand—causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell.”

Matthew 5:30

<https://www.bible.com/bible/116/MAT.5.30.NLT>

“You have heard the law that says, ‘A man can divorce his wife by merely giving her a written notice of divorce.’ But I say that a man who divorces his wife, unless she has been unfaithful, causes her to commit adultery. And anyone who marries a divorced woman also commits adultery.”

Matthew 5:31 -32

<https://www.bible.com/bible/116/MAT.5.31.NLT>

“You have also heard that our ancestors were told, ‘You must not break your vows; you must carry out the vows you make to the Lord.’ But I say, do not make any vows! Do not say, ‘By heaven!’ because heaven is God’s throne.”

Matthew 5:33-34

<https://www.bible.com/bible/116/MAT.5.33.NLT>

“You have heard the law that says the punishment must match the injury: ‘An eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth.’ But I say, do not resist an evil person! If someone slaps you on the right cheek, offer the other cheek also.”

Matthew 5:38-39

<https://www.bible.com/bible/116/MAT.5.38.NLT>

“If you are sued in court and your shirt is taken from you, give your coat, too. If a soldier demands that you carry his gear for a mile, carry it two miles. Give to those who ask, and don’t turn away from those who want to borrow.”

Matthew 5:40-42

<https://www.bible.com/bible/116/MAT.5.40.NLT>

“You have heard the law that says, ‘Love your neighbor’ and hate your enemy. But I say, love your enemies! Pray for those who persecute you!”

Matthew 5:43-44

<https://www.bible.com/bible/116/MAT.5.43.NLT>

“But you are to be perfect, even as your Father in heaven is perfect.”

Matthew 5:48

<https://www.bible.com/bible/116/MAT.5.48.NLT>

Take Next Steps Together - Discussion Questions:

- The Old Testament is obviously important (it makes up about two thirds of our Bibles). In your words, what is the point of it?
- In this week’s Scripture, Jesus teaches on Old Testament law. What sticks out to you from these teachings.
- Why can’t God just lower his standard from the Old Testament?

- As people redeemed by Jesus we are still called to obey his commandments. How is this different from obeying his commandments to try to earn something?
- How can we fight pride as we strive to obey Jesus?
- How did Jesus accomplish the purpose of the Old Testament?
- How can we better “invest and invite”? (Invest in those around us and invite them to church.)

Pray Together - Prayer Focus Points:

- Pray about the people we need to invite to join us to hear about Jesus!
- Pray about sharing our personal testimonies of how Jesus has changed our lives