



THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT

1. The Sermon On the Mount is the title given to Jesus' teachings in Matthew chapters 5, 6 and 7. Although many were present, this sermon seems to have been taught primarily to His disciples (Matthew 5:1).
2. The actual location of the Sermon on the Mount is not certain. However, the traditional location is on the northwestern shore of the Sea of Galilee between Capernaum and Gennesaret.
3. The central theme is summarized in Matthew 5:48, "Therefore you shall be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect." The word "perfect" means to be full-grown, fully completed growth as contrasted to infancy and childhood, having reached the goal for that which he was created. In other words, a mature disciple.
4. The main themes Jesus addresses in the Sermon on the Mount
 - A. The Sermon on the Mount is Jesus' teaching on the lifestyle of disciples (5:1-2).
 - His disciples came to Him and He began teaching them...
 - B. Discipleship deals with deeper Truth, responsibility and eternal reward (5:3-12).
 - The Beatitudes teach the idea that happiness is not based upon worldly circumstances but on Divine conditions, a foundational understanding for disciples.
 - To dig deeper, go to the Discipleship Foundations page at discipleshipdevelopment.org.
 - C. We have the responsibility to influence our society for the Kingdom (5:13-16).
 - Salt (lifestyle permeates and flavors) and light (our words and actions as declarative).
 - D. Christ fulfills the Law and gives us the ability to overcome the root and motivation of sin through the power of the Spirit (5:17-48).

- Murder/anger, adultery/lust, marriage/divorce, oaths, going the extra mile and loving our enemies.
- E. Jesus gave us a pattern for an effective life of prayer and fasting (6:1-18).
- The five parts of the disciple's prayer pattern: praise, priorities, provision, pardon and power.
 - "Pharisaism," giving, praying and fasting to be seen as having a greater spirituality.
- F. As disciples we are able to have an eternal perspective on temporal things (6:19-34).
- Serving the spirit of the world system (Mammon).
 - Not worrying but trusting God for all our provision, knowing He will provide when our focus is first His Kingdom.
- G. Understanding the "Root Fruit" principle (7:1-23).
- Judging others before we have judged ourselves.
 - The right motivation for asking with a determination to wait for it.
 - Many choose the broad way but few choose the narrow way (discipleship).
 - Ability to discern false prophets, their fruit, speech and lifestyle.
- H. Building our life on obedience to Christ's words (7:24-29).
- Building our life on obedience to His words (in the Sermon on the Mount) insures success.
 - Hearing His words but ignoring them brings disaster.