

Sermon Discussion Guide

Oct. 19 & 20, 2024 "Spider-Man No Way Home: Identity Meets Mission" <u>Matthew 5:38-42</u>

In this sermon series, "Faith on Film," we'll be looking movies and the stories that can teach us biblical truths. Jesus often taught with parables, or stories, so these modern-day examples will also help us to understand deeper truths from Scripture.

PRAY & CONNECT

Open in prayer and invite the Holy Spirit into your conversation. Ask God for wisdom and discernment and trust him to guide you. Take time to recap the message or view it on **HopeOnline.tv**. Did you have any "ah-ha" moments where you felt convicted, compelled, or inspired during the sermon? What's been on your mind this week? Have you been able to apply the message to your everyday life?

GROW

Read Matthew 5:28-42 - "Eye for Eye"

- How is Jesus raising the bar in this passage? How do you think the original audience would've received it? How does Jesus understand the law differently than the Pharisees?
- How can we balance justice and mercy? Do we ever get those two out of balance? How does the world get these two out of balance? How can we tell if we're out of balance in those two things?

Read Matthew 23:23 - "Seven Woes on the Teachers of the Law and the Pharisees"

- What is the purpose of God's laws? Pastor Mike mentioned two in his message. How are God's laws misused or misunderstood? What are the teachers of the law doing in this passage that Jesus is speaking out against? How can we be tempted to do something similar today?
- Do you ever feel like you have to earn your salvation by following the law and doing certain things? Have you ever felt guilted or scared into doing things for God? What would Jesus say about that?

Read James 2:13 - "Favoritism Forbidden"

Read Luke 12:48 - "Watchfulness"

- How is God calling your group to raise the bar? Who does God say you are? Who does God say your group is? What are you called to be? How does that impact your mission and how you reach out to others? How does our identity impact mission?
- What has God given you? What is he calling you to do with those blessings? Have you ever felt the joy of cheerful giving? How does giving to missions give us freedom?

APPLY

As we begin this new building campaign, Building Hope for Tomorrow, start to pray about what God may do through you to accomplish his mission for the church. Talk with your group about how you can be a part of this mission God has given us. Pray, "God, what do you want to do through me to accomplish your mission for the church?"

