

THE KINGDOM

18 FEBRUARY 2024



“Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them.”

— Matthew 5:17 (NIV)

²¹“You have heard that it was said to the people long ago, ‘You shall not murder, and anyone who murders will be subject to judgment.’ ²²But I tell you that anyone who is angry with a brother or sister will be subject to judgment.”

— Matthew 5:21–22 (NIV)



EVERY NATION
SINGAPORE

HOOK

 Start the conversation by saying...

Did you know that Singapore is considered one of the countries with the strictest laws in the world?

ENGAGE

 Go deeper with this...

Based on your experience, how would you rate the effectiveness and efficiency in the enforcement of your nation's laws?

LINK

 Connect to God's truth by sharing...

- God's people were also given a Law to follow, one overflowing with rules, restrictions, and regulations. How can we be expected to follow every command?
- The fact is, after Jesus became the final sacrifice for all our sins, He taught us a new way to live: according to His Kingdom's laws.
- Jesus taught us how to live by the spirit of the law, not the letter of the law. That means we can have true heartfelt obedience, not just externally obedient actions.
- The best part about knowing Jesus is that we can obey by His strength, not our own. While He does require obedience as a holy God, He also gives us the ability to obey.
- Ultimately, we must remember that the true foundation of God's Kingdom is not obedience to certain requirements and rituals, but an overflow of love for God resulting from a deep and intimate relationship with Him.

PAUSE

 Pick a question and pray together...

Discuss Together (*pick one*)

- Why do you obey? Is it just to comply, or because of a true desire to obey?
- In what areas are you following the standards of the world over the standards of Jesus?

Pray Together (*pick one*)

- Pray to obey God in spirit, not just with outward compliance.
- Pray for God's strength to help you obey Him every day.

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“For I desire mercy, not sacrifice . . .”

— Hosea 6:6 (NIV)