

CONVERSATION GUIDE

Middle-High School

DATE: 10/4/20

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 5:38-42

LESSON: On Retaliation

INTRO

This conversation guide exists to help parents interact with their middle and high school students. Our goal in having middle and high school students attend gatherings (or worship at home) with their parents is to help them transition toward being adults who are fully functioning members of the church. But most middle and high school students still need some translation and help connecting what they're learning to their lives. We want our sermons to be accessible, but they aren't specifically targeted toward the transitional teenage years.

- **Read Matthew 5:38-42.**
 - In the sermon, we talked a lot about shame and honor culture. Where do you see examples of middle or high school shame and dishonor?
 - If someone wants to hurt someone (make them feel sad, angry, or small) how are they most likely to do that? (Ex: bullying, direct insults, cut downs, "burns", talking bad about you or lying about you behind your back, damaging your property, criticizing you on social media, etc.)
 - Is there anyone who dishonors you in any of these ways regularly?
 - How are you most likely to retaliate when someone hurts you?
- How does the gospel free us up from needing to retaliate to try to restore our honor? (Parent note: Through His life, death and resurrection, Jesus both Jesus takes away our shame and gives us His honor which is eternal and unshakeable.)
- **John 10:17.** What does it practically look like for you to follow Jesus' lead the next time someone unjustly dishonors you?
 - (Parent Note: In the sermon we summarized Jesus' approach in Matthew 5:38-42 as:
 - Step 1.) Don't retaliate
 - Step 2.) Remember your God given honor and
 - Step 3.) Respond creatively.)