

50 Commands of Christ - 2 - (#7-12)

7. Be reconciled—*Matthew 5:24-25*. Why is an “out-of-court” settlement better than a judge’s decision?

Why is it preferable for Christians to quietly resolve conflicts rather than battle over them publicly?

8. Do not commit adultery—*Matthew 5:27-30*. How did Jesus expand the definition of adultery in God’s eyes?

What’s wrong with the statement, “it’s okay to look as long as you don’t touch?”

Did Jesus mean what he said literally in 5:29-30? Why did he make this radical statement?

9. Keep your word—*Matthew 5:33-37*. How did Jesus update the ancient proverb about oaths? Why is it inappropriate to swear by heaven? By earth? By your head?

In what situations do people often swear? How do we take the name of God lightly or frivolously?

How does lying in the name of God affect the reputation of God?

10. Go the second mile—*Matthew 5:38-42*. Where do we draw the line between our rights and the responsibility to be forgiving and patient?

Can love really overcome evil? How can doing good change a bad situation?

11. Love your enemies—*Matthew 5:44*. Is this a new command? (Exodus 23:4-5, Deut 22:1-4, Proverbs 25:21)

God loves and treats evil and good people the same way. Why is it so difficult for us to do the same?

Is praying for an enemy a good first step to loving him?

12. Be perfect—*Matthew 5:48*. Who set the example for us?

Is it possible for us to carry out this command? Does that mean we shouldn’t try?