

2023 Aim Check-in

- Becoming disciples who make disciples, who make disciples.
 - Creating a community of faith that meaningfully engages our community of residence.
1. In the time since you last met as a H2H group, have you made any movement towards the aims we've set for 2023?
 2. How might we as a H2H group help support or encourage you towards these aims?

Discussion Questions Set #1

“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. For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth disappear, not the smallest letter, not the least stroke of a pen, will by any means disappear from the Law until everything is accomplished. Therefore anyone who sets aside one of the least of these commands and teaches others accordingly will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever practices and teaches these commands will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you that unless your righteousness surpasses that of the Pharisees and the teachers of the law, you will certainly not enter the kingdom of heaven.” (Matthew 5:17-20)

1. Prior to this sermon, how have you understood the place of the Law (the Mosaic Law found throughout Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers and Deuteronomy)? What role does it play in your everyday life?
2. Why might it be significant that we hold to a proper understanding of the Law as followers of Jesus?
3. Why is it significant that Jesus is understood as not a Law-breaker but as one who actually fulfills the Law?
4. Discuss the difference between abolishing the Law and fulfilling the Law. What difference does this make on our following of Jesus?

Discussion Questions Set #2

“Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments”. (Matthew 22:34-40)

“Therefore love is the fulfillment of the law.” (Romans 13:10)

“A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another” (John 13:34)

“Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit who gives life has set you free from the law of sin and death. For what the law was powerless to do because it was weakened by the flesh, God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh to be a sin offering” (Romans 8:1-3).

In sermon, we discussed the idea that rather than abolishing the Law, Jesus came to fulfill it through His love extended to us on the cross. He also “re-ordered” the Law, placing the commandments to love God whole heartedly and to love our neighbours as ourselves at the forefront. [The Pharisees had claimed that the greatest law was the law to honour your father and mother (Exodus 20:12)]

1. What difference does love being at the forefront make in our approach to the Law?
2. Discuss the significance of the Law’s inability to “save” and the freedom from condemnation we can find in Christ’s love. What practical differences might this make to our following of Jesus?
3. Discuss the following statement: “we can obey the Law, not in order to win God’s favor, but because we already depend on His free grace and trust that His commands will lead to full and lasting joy”.
4. While the Pharisees were hung up on the “honour your parents” law, what kinds of laws do you find followers of Jesus are hung up on today? Are we primarily concerned with Jesus’ new command or His “greatest” commands?
5. What balance do you strike in your life between obedience to the Law and the loving of others? What challenges does this pose?