

## **Sermon Guide: The Sermon on the Mount: “Gospel, Kingdom, and Discipleship” | Samuel Voo | April 07, 2024**

### **Summary**

In this sermon, Samuel Voo begins a new teaching series on Jesus’ Sermon on the Mount. In this introductory message, he covers three main areas: the context of the Sermon, its connection with the gospel message, and suggestions for practical steps to hear it well in the weeks ahead.

In talking about the context of the Sermon, Sam highlighted that the Sermon on the Mount is not just about the teaching of Jesus, but a snapshot of Jesus’ life. Further, Matthew’s five blocks of teaching showcases the connection between Moses and Jesus. Jesus is more than a new lawgiver; He is the very source of truth, surpassing Moses in authority. Thus, Jesus’ teachings in The Sermon on the Mount are not just another set of rules but a revelation of His identity as Lord and King. This, then, is the connection between the gospel and Jesus’ teachings: the gospel is the revelation that Jesus is Lord and King; the Sermon is the expression of this king’s will for us to be obeyed. Sam then explores the concept of obedience in the Christian life, contrasting it with passive subservience and likening it to the active, intentional discipleship depicted in the film “The Karate Kid.”

Finally, Sam offered practical steps for preparing to receive Jesus’ teachings, such as dedicating time for reflection, journaling, engaging in spiritual friendships, seeking counseling or spiritual direction, studying scripture, and embracing solitude. I encouraged the congregation to clear away spiritual, mental, and emotional clutter to make room for God’s voice in their lives as we begin to listen and try to obey Jesus’ word for us in the Sermon.

### **Key Takeaways:**

1. The Sermon on the Mount, along with chapters 8-9, serves as a compact introduction to Jesus’ life and ministry, highlighting His identity as the ultimate authority and source of truth. As we delve into this teaching, we must recognize that Jesus is not merely a new Moses but the embodiment of God’s wisdom and law. [\[13:09\]](#)
2. The Sermon on the Mount is not an isolated message but is deeply connected to the gospel’s proclamation that Jesus is Lord. Understanding this connection helps us grasp the gravity of Jesus’ teachings and the transformative power they hold for our lives as we seek to obey and reflect Him as our King. [\[19:44\]](#)
3. As we approach the teachings of Jesus, it is crucial to clear away the emotional and spiritual clutter that fills our lives. By establishing rhythms of rest, reflection, and communion with God, we can better receive and internalize the life-changing wisdom of The Sermon on the Mount. [\[32:16\]](#)

**Bible Reading:**

1. Matthew 5-7 - The Sermon on the Mount
2. Matthew 4:23 and 9:35 - "And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people."
3. Matthew 28:18-20 - "And Jesus came and said to them, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.'"

**Discussion Questions**

1. What reactions do the crowds have to Jesus' teachings in the Sermon on the Mount, and what might this suggest about who Jesus is?
2. In what ways does Jesus' ministry of teaching, preaching, and healing in Matthew 5-9 relate to Jesus in the Gospel of Matthew?
3. What is the connection between the good news of Jesus and this teaching of Jesus' in Matthew 5-7?

**Going deeper**

1. Reflect on your own spiritual preparation; what specific steps can you take this week to create space to hear God's voice more clearly?
2. Consider Jesus as the source of truth in the Sermon on the Mount. What posture does this knowledge invite you to take?
3. Consider the spiritual, mental, or emotional clutter in your life. What is one thing you can remove or reduce to make room for growth in your relationship with God?
4. Think about your role in discipleship. What is one action you can take to mentor or guide someone in their spiritual journey, as Jesus did with His disciples?