

# HE CAME TO FULFILL

Sermon on the Mount | Family Devotion | Week 4

## The Passage

Matthew 5:17-20

## Questions

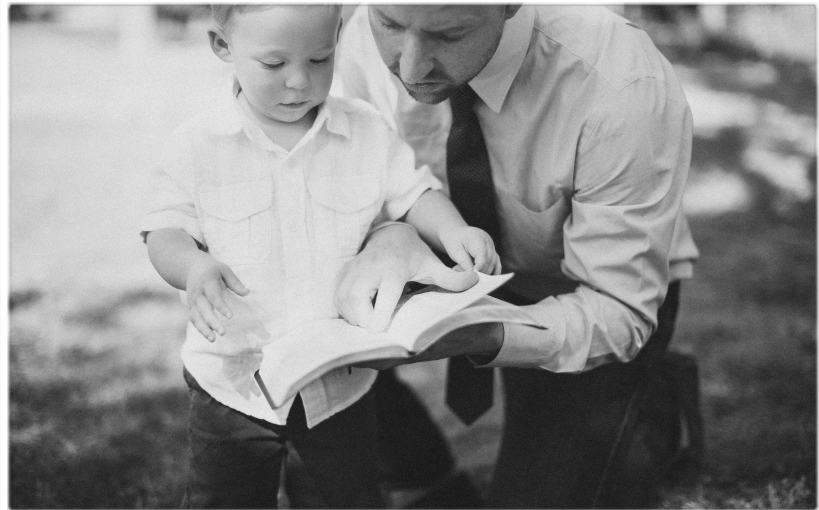
We all have rules to follow. What is your favorite and least favorite rule?

What does Jesus mean when he talks about righteousness in vs. 20?

How can our family be a picture of God's heart to those around us?

## Prayer

God... we love you. Thank you for coming to this world. We needed You far more than we ever realized. Thank you for Easter. Help us to always see the heart behind your law and your standards. Help our family to be a picture of that heart to the world around us.



## The Story

“I come not to abolish but to fulfill.” When Jesus came on to the scene in Judea, he was a complicated figure. For some, his message was just too simple, there had to be more to what he meant. For others, his challenge was too great, too much needed to be given to follow his call. But more than that, people saw in Jesus what they wanted to see. His disciples saw a leader, the chosen one they had been promised and the one who would lead their people out of bondage. The Romans saw a man with a following who spoke of peace and nothing to be too worried about. The Jewish leaders saw a false prophet, a troublemaker whose words were as annoying as they were wrong. The people saw a healer and a teacher, a man who did good but spoke of a future they did not quite understand. But all could agree; what Jesus was doing was hard to understand. Some of his words even sounded like he was changing the standards of Jewish law handed down from Moses. “You have heard that it was said.... but I say...” sounded like he was upending centuries of Scripture and law. In Matthew 5, Jesus spoke to his mission. “I have come,” he said, “not to abolish the law, but to fulfill it.” He was not here to change the law; he was here to show us that the rules in Scripture are meant to reveal a deeper meaning. Jesus wants us to see that the Bible is more than a list of standards; it is a window into the heart God wants to develop in all of us. His call is to lift our eyes from a system of dos and don'ts to a better way, to a heart that looks like the heart of God.