

SERMON ON THE MOUNT

Matthew 5-7

How did all this get written down?

Why does Matthew make the material in these chapters so central while the other writers do so to a lesser degree?

What parts find themselves in other gospels?

Do you think this sermon was given non-stop or do you think there was Q&A time? Are there any hints that this was the case?

What images/illustrations are ones that Jesus could point to right from where he taught on the hillside?

Is it important at all that Jesus sat down when he taught?

What questions come to your mind as you read each section? List them all, even if they seem silly. Put them on a card and put them in the "Question/Response Box" on Sunday.

When Jesus gives a "Do not" it is usually accompanied by a "Do". What would those "Do" statements look like in your own context?

Are there parts of this sermon that you heard powerfully in your own mind and heart that haven't stood out as much in the past when you have read this sermon?

What sections do you suspect require a little better understanding of Jesus' culture for you to be able to hear what he is saying?

Pick one or two words that seem important in this sermon and do a little concordance work in finding out how that word is used in the rest of Scripture.

How does this sermon feel like part of God's gift to you as he wants your heart and his heart to be beating as one?

Which parts require great humility on my part to hear what Jesus is saying?

What are the "be" and "do" parts of this sermon?

Take a few sections and write a description of what is being said to a five year old.

Does any of your reading inspire artistic expressions in your spirit? Take a break and let the creator lead you in creation.

What piece of landscape do you feel describes what you have read?

Is there a section you wish wasn't there and why is that the case? Is there a section that just doesn't seem to fit within practical limitations? Is following Jesus practical?