



Sixth Sunday of Epiphany Holiness Requires Wholeness

Matthew 5:21-26

When God is with us, we learn that to be holy, requires wholeness

Its the Season of Epiphany—Meaning and Purpose

Epiphany - “inspired realization”

You feel it in your bones, you know it changes everything.

Today we’re going to be exploring how God-With-Us teaches us to be holy, but in order to be holy, we need to act “wholly”

*The moment when you wish you said the thing you wanted to say...
Relationships are difficult—and with difficult people, they’re even harder*

But in order to be a whole person, who strives toward holiness...

Today’s Scripture is one of the more difficult teachings of Jesus...

WHEN GOD IS WITH US, WE LEARN THAT TO BE HOLY REQUIRES WHOLENESS

Matthew 5:21-26— More from The Sermon on The Mount

- *“You have heard it said... but I say to you...” reframing the commandments*
- *“Raca” - airhead. Lands you in court. “Fool” - endangers your soul.*
- *Jesus’ claim is that murderous thoughts lead to death—for both parties*
- *His assertion is that in order to be holy, we need to be made whole*
- *And that might require some forgiveness, and a change of heart*

Jesus teaches that our right relationship with God is predicated on our relationship with others—if you Love God, you Love Everybody

How Do We Make This A Reality for Ourselves?

- *Acknowledge the pain that you are feeling—don’t deny it, bury it.*
- *Surrender our whole heart (and our pain) to God—even the angry part*
- *Work toward reconciliation—it takes two to reconcile, though*

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SERMON EXTRAS & FURTHER READING

FOR FURTHER READING:

The Word Made Flesh: A Theology of the Incarnation

Ian A. McFarland

Christ The Heart of Creation

Rowan Williams

The Universal Christ: Another Name for Everything

Richard Rohr

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