



**LEADER PAGE | SERIES | Best Sermon Ever | WEEK 3 of 11 | Sermon date: June 13, 2021**

**Discipleship Phrase:** His heart, my hands.

**Big Idea for Series:** Jesus' heart for the kingdom is on full display.

**Abiding** (*grow as a disciple yourself*)

The scriptures we are spending time in this week are focused on words spoken by Jesus towards the Pharisees. He is establishing himself as a new authority knowing they believed they went to Babylon because of their sin. Jesus teaches about the law with intention; trying to have them come to realize that the law reveals the very nature of God and shows his character. The law is not there to punish or make you feel “less than”; the law is there to motivate you and allow you the space to find the “why” behind what you do. Spend quiet time with Him this week to remember and re-commit to your “why” if you have lost focus or passion. Ask God to reveal something new about His character and/or nature so you can reflect on His goodness in your walk. Be ready to talk through what His laws mean in your life and why you choose to call Him your Savior.

**Leading** (*facilitate your group effectively*)

The week the sermon covers the Law and how we as Christians relate to it. When you lead this week recognize that Jesus is focusing on how important love is in our Christian walk. Question 1 highlights that Jesus is challenging those that focus on the law (rules) alone. Help drive the discussion of what laws were historically in place and why people of that time were so strict in following it. As you begin diving further in Question 2, be conscious of your members' spiritual maturity. There won't be enough time to go through everyone's story but give some time for sharing as it is a special time for God to work. Help the group to see that Christianity is about a personal relationship with Christ but we must also be in relationship with people around us. If Jesus talks about love for God and others as the most important why is the law still important? Help them to recognize that when we love the Lord first, we will love His law, because it is His law. It is a gift from God meant to keep you safe, well, give you security, and help you navigate this life. In Matthew 22:37-40, Jesus anchors his message on love. What if we loved our God so well that we stepped into people's lives and met them right where they are? Those in the margins and not like us? Challenge your group this week to look at areas in their life that need attention and refocus.

**Shepherding** (*know, feed, lead, and protect the sheep*)

In the weeks to follow, be mindful of who responded, and how they responded, to your in group discussion this week. Putting into words why you're a Christian can potentially be a daunting task as it forces us to wrestle with why we're doing the things we do and saying the things we say. It can cut right to the core. As you consider those in your group who struggled to answer, or even those seemingly confident in their answer, be sure to circle back with them allowing them an opportunity to process further with a trusted spiritual parent.

**Church Announcements** (*be in the know & share with your group*)

- Southeast U class starts June 28<sup>th</sup>! Community Partner Practicum! For more info check out <https://www.southeastcc.org/classes/>.

**REMEMBER: “Every group deserves a great leader.”**

# LifeGroups at Southeast

**SERIES| Best Sermon Ever| TOPIC: The Law| WEEK 3 of 11 |Sermon date: June 13, 2021**

**Welcome/Introductions** (*creating a relational environment starts here; be friendly & acknowledge everyone*)

**Open in Prayer** (*kickoff every group gathering with honoring the Lord*)

**Ice Breaker, God Moments, or Highs & Lows** (*choose one that is best for your group this week*)

**Weekly Vision Checklist** (*See Flipbook re: announcements, the “why”, goal, outreach, guidelines, & branching*)

**Ask a Hook Question** (*a thought-provoking question to get the group heading in the right direction*)

Have you ever broken the law? Share if appropriate.

**Recap the Message** (*ask a couple people to share what stood out to them in this week’s message*)

**Scriptures References** (*Read scriptures **directly from the Bible**—it carries its own authority*)

**Matthew 5:17-20 (NIV), Galatians 3:24-25 (NIV), Matthew 22:37-40 (NIV)**

**Implications** (*takeaways from the message*)

1. God’s laws are a gift that open up the fullest life possible.
2. For Christians, the Law teaches us who God is and what he is like.
3. Are you willing to continue to renew your covenant with God?

**Discussion Questions** (*going beyond the surface*)

1. Based on Jesus’s statement in Matthew 5:17, what does that say about why the Jews follow the law so strictly?
2. If you are defining yourself as a Christian, why are you a Christian? (Ask the question as is and let them wrestle with it. If needed, ask them to share their testimony.)
3. Based on your answer is their business you need to do with your why?

**Prayer Requests** (*record, share, and follow up throughout the week. Use the LEAD App or CCB if possible.*)

**Closing Prayer** (*ask openly for a volunteer, encourage your people to step outside of their comfort zone regularly*)

