

WHITFIELD PARISH

St James' Church † St Luke's Church

LIFE Group Notes w/b Sunday 4 May 2008

The Good Life – What's in your heart?

Matthew 5.21 – 30; 38 – 42

1. To discuss: what is a person's heart?
2. What does 1 Samuel 16 v.7 actually mean?

Read Matthew 5 v.21-42

(These questions will not refer to v.31-37. The issue of divorce will be considered at the Café Service on 18 May.)

3. Looking at v.21-22, can you put into your own words what Jesus is saying?

Is it always wrong to get angry?

4. Michael Green makes this comment about v.23-24:
"Among the children of the Kingdom, acceptable worship involves repairing relationship."
 - i) What do you think this means?
 - ii) What might be the 21st century equivalent of "offering your gift at the altar" (v.23)?
 - iii) How does reconciliation relate to our Sunday worship?

- 5 How might v.25-26 be simple, plain, common sense?

- 6 Bearing v.27-28 in mind:

- i) How might this have something to say about the Christian's relationship with the media?
- ii) We rightly have concerns about what our children watch or read, but what about adults?

7. What do v.29-30 say to us about the urgency of the situation?

8. Looking at v.38-42:

- i) Is it really possible to live like this?
- ii) Who did live like this?

9. Back to the human heart...

Try to answer these questions from the Bible, giving chapter and verse:

- i) What is God's view of the human heart?
- ii) Does God ever break our heart and if so, to what purpose?
- iii) How does God heal broken hearts?
- iv) What is the Holy Spirit's rôle in all this?