

**“I’M SO MAD, I COULD...”
(MATTHEW 5:21-26)**

CENTRAL TRUTH

- Righteousness that satisfies God cannot come from human effort. Even anger causes us to sin and disqualifies us, therefore we need Jesus Christ to make His righteousness a reality in our lives.

TRUTH N^o. 1 (Vs. 5:21)

AGREED THAT MURDER IS SIN.

- The wanton and unjust taking of a life deserves punishment.
- Murder breaks the established code of righteousness – Law.

TRUTH N^o. 2 (Vs. 5:22)

ANGER CAN ALSO BE SIN.

- It is possible to be angry and not sin (i.e. anger over abortion)
- Greek word for anger implies wrath that is an emotion born, nurtured, and emanating from the heart.
- Heart righteousness is the code established by Jesus.

TRUTH N^o. 3 (Vs. 5:22)

ATTACKING ANOTHER BELIEVER VERBALLY IS SIN.

- Slander through rumor and gossip is sin.
- Character assassination places you in conflict with God.
- Could be a progression: anger → slander → character assassination, so handle anger properly.

TRUTH N^o. 4 (Vs. 5:23-24)

ATTITUDE AFFECTS WORSHIP.

- Context infers that worship cannot take place until broken relationships are restored.
- If a horizontal relationship is broken, then the vertical one with Jesus is affected.
- Do all that is within your power to reconcile with fellow believers.

TRUTH N^o. 5 (Vs. 5:25-26)

ACT TO RECONCILE BROKEN RELATIONSHIPS.

- Act NOW! It must be a priority in your life.
- Stubbornness will result in adverse consequences.