Bible Study 9 – Reconciling relationships – Matthew 5:22-26

Jonah got angry because God spared the people of Nineveh, who were Gentiles and not God's special nation (like the Jews). We can be like Jonah. We may be angry because someone has wronged us in some way. And we can't wait until we see them because we are going to let them have it. We are going to tell them what they did & how it made us feel & what we're going to do about it & what they should do about it and the kind of person we think they are. Sometimes we don't want reconciliation or resolution. We want to be proven right. We want to triumph in victory over another. We can be vengeful or spiteful and in so doing, perpetuate a conflict, continue a difference we have with another. Let's see what Jesus says about this.

The context	After Jesus was baptised by John & tested by Satan, He preached urging people to "repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near" (Matthew 4:17). Because Jesus healed "every disease and sickness among the people", large crowds followed Him. After Jesus chooses the 12 disciples, He preached the Sermon on the Mount to them (Matthew 5-7). Six times He contrasts His teaching with the Old Testament (Mt. 5:21-48).

PART 1 Read and summarise each section – Matthew 5:22-26

Anger (v.22)	
Reconciliation before worship (v.23-24)	
Reconciliation before court (v.25-26)	

PART 2 Things I discovered in this passage

1. What I learnt about God, Jesus or the Holy Spirit.

2. What I learnt about people like us.

3. Summarise a key verse in your own words.

4. In your opinion, what are the most important biblical principles being taught?

5. Which other parts of the passage caught your attention?

6. In what way is 1 Corinthians 11:27-32 an application of Matthew 5:23-24?

7. Which parts of the passage were difficult to understand? What questions come to your mind?

Let's realise that anger, abuse and cursing is sinful; be ready to confess our wrongdoings; and do what it takes to be reconciled (this may include restitution).

Obey

Since God's word is true, what must I change in my life to obey God?
What must I do to obey?

I will
I will
I will

Questions to help me apply this study to myself

- Is there a *SIN* for me to avoid?
- Is there a *PROMISE* from God for me to claim?
- Is there an *EXAMPLE* for me to follow?
- Is there a COMMANDMENT or MODEL for me to follow?

Share

Who will I tell about this Bible passage?

Prayer   Date:

One thing you are thankful for.
One thing that's bothering you.
Is there anything this group can do to help you?

Person	Prayer points

Who needs help? What can we do to help over the next two weeks?

Person	How will I help them?