



Disorientation: An Eye for An Eye: The Third Way

February 1st & 2nd

Speaker: Pastor Jenni Clayville

Scripture: Matthew 5:38-42

Series Overview

Jesus didn't do an orientation with his disciples. It was more of a disorientation! In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus is uninstalling old testament paradigms and downloading new covenant principles. In these passages, Jesus leads with the phrase, "You have heard that it was said," and follows it up with, "But I tell you."

Series Question

What is one thing the Holy Spirit revealed to you this week?

Sermon Overview

When we hear "turn the other cheek" or "go the second mile", what we usually translate that to is "just let them win" or "roll over and play dead". But what Jesus of Nazareth is telling us in this passage is actually quite provocative. He's not actually telling us to fight back with violence or take a passive stance. Rather, Jesus is offering us a third way of non-violent defiance. Let justice win.

Sermon-Specific Questions

Throughout our spiritual growth journeys we experience times of disorientation. Share a story where you experienced disorientation within your spiritual journey.

Read Matthew 5:38-42. What about this passage is difficult for you to hear and obey? Why?

How do you tend to respond when you're in the midst of a challenging situation?

In what ways have you experienced violence perpetuating violence? Or peace perpetuating peace? What are some situations where you have seen people use imaginative ways to *not* fight violence with violence, but instead a third way of nonviolent resistance?

Martin Luther King Jr said, "Nonviolence is absolute commitment to the way of love. Love is not emotional bash; it is not empty sentimentalism. It is the active outpouring of one's whole being into the being of another." How are you intentionally investing in someone else? In what ways can you better care for others in your life this week?