



Jesus is the Perfect Righteousness of God

Scripture: Matthew 5:17-20 ¹⁷“Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. ¹⁸For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth disappear, not the smallest letter, not the least stroke of a pen, will by any means disappear from the Law until everything is accomplished. ¹⁹Therefore anyone who sets aside one of the least of these commands and teaches others accordingly will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever practices and teaches these commands will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. ²⁰For I tell you that unless your righteousness surpasses that of the Pharisees and the teachers of the law, you will certainly not enter the kingdom of heaven.

Group Opener:

Have your small group share a favorite ministry moment from your time with Pastor Tim Hawks.

Discussion Questions:

1. Jesus describes some of the Law in 5:19 as “least of these commandments.” Have you ever wondered why Jesus would speak about the Law in a way that assumes that some of it is “least”?
2. Can your group come up with three things that God’s word calls us to do, or to stay away from? Now talk about ways we can make those things more or less challenging in our lives.
3. Jesus used the phrase “your righteousness exceeds that of the Pharisees.” Knowing that the Pharisees were a group of people who literally added rules on top of the Bible commandments, is the call to exceed encouraging to you or discouraging and explain why?
4. Jesus said right off the bat that He came to fulfill the Law. Is it easy for your eyes to see His accomplishment in this passage, or do you tend to see that you don’t measure up? Is it easy to see what the Bible calls us to, or is it easy to feel defeated when we read our Bibles?
5. What is one thing you can do this week to remind yourself that Jesus is your sufficiency?

NOTE: 35 Days of Appreciation for Pastor Tim & Cindy Hawks 35 years of ministry at Hill Country Bible Church - Starting Oct 8

- **Notes of Gratitude/Appreciation**
- **Gifts of Ministry Support**
- **Celebration Sunday on Nov 12**