

# First Things First

Mt 5.21-26

February 17, 2019

## 1. Danger in my heart

v21-22: *“You have heard that it was said to the people long ago, ‘Do not murder, and anyone who murders will be subject to judgment.’ But I tell you that anyone who is angry with his brother will be subject to judgment. Again, anyone who says to*

*his brother, ‘Raca,’ is answerable to the Sanhedrin. But anyone who says, ‘You fool!’ will be in danger of the fire of hell.*



App 1:

## 2. Safety in my obedience

v23-24: *“Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to your brother; then come and offer your gift.*

**1st:** *“Have I made this effort?”*

**2nd:** *“Are my planks removed?” (Mt 7.3-5): Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother's eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye? <sup>4</sup> How can you say to your brother, ‘Let me take the speck out of your eye,’ when all the time there is a plank in your own eye? <sup>5</sup> You hypocrite, first take the plank out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother's eye.*



**3rd:** (according to Mt 18.15-17) **Be direct :**

- a. *If your brother sins against you...*
- b. *Go...show him his fault, just between the two of you...*
- c. *But if he will not listen...*



**4th: Call in help**

- d. *...take one or two others along.*
- e. *If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church.*
- f. *...And if he refuses to listen even to the church, treat him as a pagan or*

*tax-collector....:*



App 2:

## 3. Urgency for my Freedom

v25-26: *“Settle matters quickly with your adversary who is taking you to court. Do it while you are still with him on the way, or he may hand you over to the judge, and the judge may hand you over to the officer, and you may be thrown into prison. I tell you the truth, you will not get out until you have paid the last penny.*

