

Thornbury Baptist Church  
Matthew Teaching Series

Small Group Discussion Questions

**Talk Date:** 12<sup>th</sup> of January 2025

**Talk title:** Exceptional Righteousness

**Passage:** Matthew 5:17-20

**Speaker:** Elliot Mocharrafie

**Discussion Questions**

In this talk, I focussed on how, in this passage, Jesus set himself up to expound the true meaning of the Law. He roots himself in his Jewish heritage by affirming, obeying and fulfilling the Old Testament whilst also undermining the hypocrisy of the religious elite. Subsequently, Jesus expounds six laws (Matt 5:21-48) intensifying their meaning. A high ethical standard of the kingdom is highlighted whilst also revealing humanity's unrighteousness. This tension invites us to let go of pride and human effort to surrender under God's Spirit, allowing him to transform us into people like Jesus.

- What stood out to you in the talk and why?
- Which areas of life do you find easiest to rely on self-effort or human ability and why?
- Which areas of life do you find easier to surrender to the Holy Spirit and why?
- Was there anything that you felt the Holy Spirit ask you to do in response to this passage or this talk? If you feel comfortable, share it with the group.
- John Mark Comer uses the analogy of training for a marathon for spiritual formation. As we engage with the Holy Spirit through spiritual disciplines we are transformed over time. What does the rhythm of your spiritual disciplines look like at the moment? Is there anything you've found particularly helpful in your formation or anything you aspire to adjust?

**Takeaway**

What is the main thing each person is taking away from this discussion?

All talks are recorded and may be viewed on TBC's YouTube Channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCM1OwaJ4eSICosAjl9Ofzjw>