

Scripture Reading: Luke 6:17-26

Sermon Title: The Narrative: Jesus, His eyes, & us

And he came down with them and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea and Jerusalem and the seacoast of Tyre and Sidon, ¹⁸ who came to hear him and to be healed of their diseases. And those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. ¹⁹ And all the crowd sought to touch him, for power came out from him and healed them all.

²⁰ And he lifted up his eyes on his disciples, and said:

“Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God.

²¹ “Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you shall be satisfied.

“Blessed are you who weep now, for you shall laugh.

²² “Blessed are you when people hate you and when they exclude you and revile you and spurn your name as evil, on account of the Son of Man! ²³ Rejoice in that day, and leap for joy, for behold, your reward is great in heaven; for so their fathers did to the prophets.

²⁴ “But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation.

²⁵ “Woe to you who are full now, for you shall be hungry.

“Woe to you who laugh now, for you shall mourn and weep.

²⁶ “Woe to you, when all people speak well of you, for so their fathers did to the false prophets.

Luke 6:17-26

And he came down with **them** and stood on a level place, with **a great crowd of his disciples** and **a great multitude of people from** all **Judea** and **Jerusalem** and the seacoast of **Tyre** and **Sidon**, ¹⁸ who **came to hear him** and **to be healed** of their diseases. And those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. ¹⁹ And all **the crowd sought to touch him**, for power came out from him and healed them all.

The Audience:

The 12

The crowd of His disciples (includes the 12)

The crowd of people from all over (includes skeptics, seekers, antagonists)

And he **lifted up his eyes on his disciples**, and said:

Luke 6:20

You have God’s attention.

Seeing the crowds, he went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, **his disciples came to him.**

Matthew 5:1

When Jesus **saw his mother** and **the disciple whom he loved** standing nearby, he said to his mother, “Woman, behold, your son!” ²⁷ Then he said to the disciple, “Behold, your mother!” And from that hour the disciple took her to his own home.

John 19:26-27

looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for **the joy that was set before him** endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God
Hebrews 12:2

We have God's attention, does He have ours?

And he lifted up his eyes on his disciples, **and said**:
Luke 6:20

You have God's heart.

Jesus' vision for the Kingdom of God includes its king, its ethics, its heirs, & its ambassadors.

The King of The Kingdom drips of unmatched authority, abundant grace, & extravagant goodness.

“but I say to you...”
Luke 6:27

“...The Most High, he is kind to the ungrateful and the evil. Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful”
Luke 6:35-36

The ethics of The Kingdom display an entirely new way of life anchored by love, truth, dignity, & grace

“The good person out of the good treasure of his heart produces good, and the evil person out of his evil treasure produces evil, for out of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaks”
Luke 6:45

The righteousness that God is after is a matter of the heart & the conduct of one's life.

“None is righteous, no, not one;

¹¹ no one understands;
no one seeks for God.

¹² All have turned aside; together they have become worthless;
no one does good,
not even one.”

Romans 3:10-12 & *Our Honest-Sober Self-Assessment*

For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. ¹⁷ For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, “The righteous shall live by faith.”

Romans 1:16-17 & *Our Definitive Hope*

*“Come, ye sinners, poor and wretched,
Weak and wounded, sick and sore;
Jesus ready stands to save you,
Full of pity joined with power;
He is able, He is able, He is able,
He is willing, doubt no more; He is willing, doubt no more.*

*Let not conscience make you linger,
Nor of fitness fondly dream;
All the fitness He requireth
Is to feel your need of Him.
This He gives you, This He gives you, This He gives you,
'Tis the Spirit's rising beam,
'Tis the Spirit's rising beam.*

*Come, ye weary, heavy laden,
Bruised and mangled by the fall;
**If you tarry till you're better,
You will never come at all;
Not the righteous, not the righteous, not the righteous,**
Sinners Jesus came to call; Sinners Jesus came to call.”*
-Joseph Hart “Come ye sinners poor & needy” 1759

The heirs & ambassadors of The Kingdom are uncommon royalty.

“Blessed are you...”

“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God
Matthew 5:9

“Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful”

Is my life marked by the way of the world or the way of Jesus & His kingdom?

You have a noble identity & a necessary calling.

He also told them a parable: **“Can a blind man lead a blind man?** Will they not both fall into a pit? ⁴⁰ A disciple is not above his teacher, but everyone when he is fully trained will be like his teacher.

Luke 6:39-40

Our lives together make the gospel visible.

And he lifted up his eyes on his disciples, and said: