

Kingdom Come

The Blessings (Mt. 5:1-12)

TALK IT OVER

Key Scripture

“Seeing the crowds, he went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him. 2 And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying: 3 “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. 4 “Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. 5 “Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth. 6 “Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied. 7 “Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy. 8 “Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God. 9 “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God. 10 “Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. 11 “Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. 12 Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.” - *Matthew 5:1-12 (ESV)*

Start Talking: Find a conversation starter for your group. (15 Min)

- Would you consider yourself a rule follower or a rule breaker?
- What are some upside down rules out there that don't make sense, yet they work?

Head: Start Thinking. Ask a question to get your group thinking. (10 Min)

- Read Matthew 5:1-12. What is upside down about Jesus' message here? How does this go against how we know the world works?
- In Matthew 5:1-12, do you think this message is a proclamation or a set of rules?
- What do you think He means by “blessed are” in Matthew 5:1-12? How are mourning, meekness, or persecution blessings?
- Bonus material: Matthew 5:13-16.

Heart: Start Sharing. Choose a question to create openness. (10 Min)

- What do a lot of these blessing have in common? Do you think these things are for us now or someday?
- How have you been comforted when you have been in mourning? How have you been filled when you have hunger and thirst for righteousness?
- Does this message Jesus gives, give you comfort or confusion, or both? Why?

Hands: Start Doing. Commit to a step and live it out this week. (10 Min)

- Try to look at things a little differently this week, instead of seeing how the world sees things try seeing things as Jesus see it.

Start Praying. Be bold and pray with power. (15 Min)

- For suggestions on structuring prayer time, see the *Group Prayer Ideas* page in this packet.

Trios: Split into same-gender groups of three. (15 Min)

1. What's a passage of scripture that has impacted you this week? Read it to the group and explain why.
2. Is there anything God is leading you to repent of?
3. How's your weekly 3-2-1 challenge going? (*3 Conversations with New People, Learn 2 Names, Make 1 Meaningful Connection*)
4. Who is one non-believer that you need to reach out to this week?
5. What's something you'd like someone else to check in with you about this week?
6. Pray for one another.

Search for the “Renewal Church Denver” app or “St. John's Denver” app in your app store. More of God's truth all week long at renewaldenver.tv and sjdenver.tv