



FROM THE BIBLE
Matthew 8:2-3 (NLT)
Romans 8:23 (NLT)
Matthew 5:20 (NASB)

MESSAGE TO CONVERSATION GUIDE

Summer Vibes | Week 3 | Welcome To 1st Class

1. Joel opened up this message with a story about flying 1st Class so let's use flying as our conversation starter. How many times have you flown? Have you ever flown 1st class? What's your least and most favorite thing about flying?
2. The point of the opening story was that Joel didn't pay for 1st class and didn't feel like he deserved to be treated the way he was. How is this similar to God's gift of grace to His followers?
3. The word 'grace' means *the undeserved favor of God*. The word 'blessed' (makarios) means *happy & realizing you're favored by God*. With that in mind, how is *grace* connected with our happiness?
4. Read Matthew 8:2-3. This is the 1st interaction Jesus has *after* his most famous sermon called The Sermon on The Mount. What happened in those verses?
5. We may think of leprosy as a physical disease. However, the crowd around Jesus would have thought that leprosy was a physical disease brought on as spiritual judgement for how a person lived. So Jesus healing this man physically was symbolic of Jesus healing him spiritually. How does Jesus heal us spiritually?
6. Read Matthew 5:20. When we isolate this verse, it seems like heaven is out of reach for nearly all of us. Why *could* we have that takeaway from that verse?
7. The point of Matthew 5:20 *isn't* that we aren't getting into heaven. The point Jesus is making *is* that we aren't getting into heaven *on our own*. Discuss that concept.
8. Read Romans 8:23 and discuss that verse in contrast with Matthew 5:20.
9. As this message wrapped up, Joel compared Chapter 11 & Chapter 7 Bankruptcies with our perspective on God. What do you remember about that illustration?
10. What was your 1 takeaway from this discussion, message, and/or series?