



# BLESSED BEATITUDES

*Exploring Jesus' Vision For The Blessed Life*



## SMALL GROUP BIBLE STUDY

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SARDINIA CHURCH OF CHRIST

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etiam. Eu  
diam in. Mi ipsum  
sodales neque sodales  
vitae semper quis. In die  
lorem sed risus ultricies t  
unt nunc pulvinar sapien et.  
lorem dolor. Vel fringilla est ullam.*

*...eismod lacinia at quis risus sed vulputate odio  
...eismod lacinia at quis. Ut tellus eleme  
...ultrices lacus sed turpis tincidunt id a  
...massa ultricies mi quis. Magna fe  
...ullus. Eget sit amet tellus  
...vitae et leo duis ut  
...aculis eu non diam p  
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## ***SESSION 9: Blessed Are The Persecuted***

### ***LEADER NOTES:***

- *Consider opening and closing your session in prayer (including requests at some point). Also consider opening your session in ice breakers of some kind.*
- *Main Idea: Jesus calls us to remain faithful under pressure.*
- *The 1<sup>st</sup> century believers faced an incredible amount of physical persecution as the early church began and throughout the world. Christians today also face persecution in some places.*
- *One of the things that is unique about Jesus' response to persecution is a reaction rooted in love. Jesus calls His followers to enemy love and a deep devotion to praying for those that may even be out to harm you.*
- *The reason people might resist or even push back against our faith is spiritual. John 3:19 talks about the exposure light brings to darkness. This creates vulnerability and exposes things and may create resistance.*



**SCRIPTURE READING: Matthew 5:1-12**

*1 Now when Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him, 2 and he began to teach them. He said: 3 “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. 4 Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. 5 Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. 6 Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. 7 Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy. 8 Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. 9 Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. 10 Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. 11 “Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. 12 Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.*



## ***SESSION 9: Group Question Guide***

1. Where do you feel the pull to stay quiet about your faith to avoid awkwardness, tension, or pushback?
2. Jesus ties persecution specifically to righteousness and Him. How can you tell the difference between being opposed for Jesus vs. just being difficult or opinionated?
3. Think about a recent moment where you had an opportunity to represent Jesus but held back. What was underneath that?
4. What do you think you're most afraid of losing if you fully lived out your faith in every area of your life?
5. Jesus says to rejoice in those moments. Does that feel unrealistic, confusing, or challenging to you and why?
6. How does seeing yourself as part of a long line of faithful people (prophets, disciples, believers) change how you view opposition?
7. What is one specific situation coming up this week where following Jesus might cost you something and what would faithfulness look like in that moment?

