



BLESSED BEATITUDES

Exploring Jesus' Vision For The Blessed Life



SMALL GROUP BIBLE STUDY

SARDINIA CHURCH OF CHRIST

SESSION 8: Blessed Are The Peacemakers

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 be peacemakers.*
- *In the original Biblial languages, “eirene” (greek) or “shalom” (hebrew) in first century Judea had the notion of a world that was made whole. It naturally echoed the times of Eden and the future realities of heaven being ushered in.*
- *In the text, this was not to a call to only be keepers of peace but makers of peace. This meant a proactive engagement with conflict and tensions that we may typically avoid with the aim of restoration, reconciliation, or the world being put right again.*
- *The Gospel message itself echoes this as Paul writes in 2 Corinthians 5:16-21 about the ministry of reconiliation through the peace made by Christ on the Cross. This places the heart of Christan peacemaking at the center of Christian practices and ministry.*



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 8: Group Question Guide

1. When you think of peace, what do you naturally think of? (Avoiding conflict? Feeling calm? Something else?) Is that more about what's happening around you or inside you?
2. How is a peacemaker different from someone who just "keeps the peace"? Do you tend to avoid conflict or step into it?
3. Where do you see "false peace" most often in everyday life? Why do people settle for it, and what does it cost over time?
4. *Read John 14:27.* What makes Jesus' peace different from the world's peace? How can Jesus bring peace even when conflict still exists?
5. Where is there tension or unresolved conflict in your life right now? (No need to share details. Just name the space if you're comfortable.)
6. What makes peacemaking most difficult for you? (Fear, pride, not knowing what to say, avoiding discomfort, etc.)
7. What is one specific step you can take this week to be a peacemaker?

