

Sermon Notes and Quotes from #Blessed (Week 2 of The Good Life)

The Beatitudes of the World by Kevin DeYoung

Blessed are the rich, for theirs is the kingdom of pleasure.

Blessed are those who feel good about themselves, for they shall be confident. Blessed are the aggressive, for they shall control the earth.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for recognition, for they shall be noticed.

Blessed are the demanding, for they shall receive what's coming to them.

Blessed are the sexually liberated, for they shall be their own gods.

Blessed are the scheming, for they shall be called children of the powerful.

Blessed are those who are praised by the world, for theirs is the kingdom of now.

You need to be emptied in order to be filled up.

“Nothing in history or in the universe cuts us down to size like the cross. All of us have inflated views of ourselves especially in self-righteousness until we have visited a place called Calvary. It is here at the foot of the cross that we shrink down to our true size.”

John Stott

Ask yourself: Do I see the sins of others more easily than I see my own? Do I regularly repent of my sins? Do I find it hard to admit when I am wrong?

Happy are the unhappy when it comes to their sin.

“Mourning contributes to a happy life by preparing us to receive eternal joy and by provoking us to seek comfort in God alone.” John Calvin

Ask yourself: Do I grieve more deeply over the ugliness of sin and over the brokenness and hardness of the world? Am I only 'sorry' for my sins, or am I grieved enough that I want to quit? Do I keep people at a distance or enter into their pain?

Meekness is a controlled desire to see the interests of others advance above my own.
DA Carson

Ask yourself: Am I someone who is always defending myself, asserting myself, and fearfully trying to control my circumstances? Am I harsh and emotionally reactionary? Or have I learned to submit to difficulties and trust God in all circumstances? Do I respond to others with gentleness and patience?

Ask yourself: Do I hunger and thirst for worldly pleasure and worldly recognition? Am I complacent spiritually and satisfied with where I am? Or do I have new desires to be closer to God and to live rightly before him in the world?

You have sinned against God way more than anyone has sinned against you.

Ask yourself: Am I helpful or callous towards the backslider? Am I compassionate or patient with the fallen? Am I gentle or hard-nosed to those who have messed up? Am I merciful to those who have sinned against me?

“Since nothing in all creation is greater than God seeing him is the greatest possible joy so much so that when we pass from this world and see the face of Christ, the joy of that split second will transcend all the accumulated joys of life.” Augustine

Ask yourself: Am I complacent with impure thoughts and hypocrisy in my life? Does love for myself and for the world often 'win out' over love for God? Am I actively seeking to purify my heart through repentance and habits of devotion to God?

“There is nothing quite so godlike as making peace.” Kevin Deyoung

Ask yourself: are there people that I need to make peace with? What is my posture towards others who are different...do I seek to build bridges and understand or do I only want to be heard? Do I seek to protect unity in the church? Am I a fighter and thrive on conflict? Do I passively avoid conflict at all costs?

The desire for all to speak well of us is hindering many of us from being more courageous and outspoken for Christ.

Ask yourself: am I a people-pleaser? Am I afraid to speak up, quick to back down because I want everyone to speak well of me? Am I willing to suffer to bring Christ and his Gospel to a dying world?