

## SEQUOIA NOTES

### Today's Sequoia Message...

#### Blessed Are You

With Jeremy Vasic  
April 14, 2024



Matthew 5:1-12 One day as he saw the crowds gathering, Jesus went up on the mountainside and sat down. His disciples gathered around him, **2** and he began to teach them.

- 3** “God blesses those who are poor and realize their need for him, for the Kingdom of Heaven is theirs.
- 4** God blesses those who mourn, for they will be comforted.
- 5** God blesses those who are humble, for they will inherit the whole earth.
- 6** God blesses those who hunger and thirst for justice, for they will be satisfied.
- 7** God blesses those who are merciful, for they will be shown mercy.
- 8** God blesses those whose hearts are pure, for they will see God.
- 9** God blesses those who work for peace, for they will be called the children of God.
- 10** God blesses those who are persecuted for doing right, for the Kingdom of Heaven is theirs.
  
- 11** “God blesses you when people mock you and persecute you and lie about you and say all sorts of evil things against you because you are my followers. **12** Be happy about it! Be very glad! For a great reward awaits you in heaven. And remember, the ancient prophets were persecuted in the same way.

"A blessed person is someone, who, because of a heart for God, is promised and enjoys God's favour regardless of that person's status or countercultural condition." Scot McKnight

**Where the Pharisees say being blessed is about what you do, Jesus says being blessed is about who you are.**

**Where the world says being blessed is about what you gain, Jesus says being blessed is about what you lose.**

**Where we say being blessed is personal, Jesus says being blessed is relational.**

**Big Idea: Experience God's Kingdom blessing through your formation, your losses, and your relational faith.**



Sequoia Impact Communities are where we  
live out our identity as a  
Family of Servants on Mission.

To get plugged in email:

[impactcommunities@sequoiachurch.org](mailto:impactcommunities@sequoiachurch.org)

**Blessed Are You**  
**April 14, 2024**

- 1) What has God revealed to you through the **Gospel Reading Challenge** this week? What have you learned or been able to apply?
- 2) Read Matthew 5:1-12. What is the **Context** for this passage? Where is this taking place in the book as a whole (what comes before or after)? Who is the writer and who are the recipients? Where does it fit in the Bible?
- 3) **Observation:** What “jumps out” in this passages? What interesting details do you observe? What questions come up about the passage? What is the major theme in the passage? What do you notice about how Jesus describes those who are “blessed”?
- 4) **Meaning:** What was the meaning for the original recipients? What meaning is inferred in this passage for us about being blessed as a part of God's Kingdom?
- 5) How does this change your view of blessing in your life?
- 6) **Application:** How is God speaking to you through this passage?



Sequoia Impact Communities are where we  
live out our identity as a  
Family of Servants on Mission.

To get plugged in email:

[impactcommunities@sequoiachurch.org](mailto:impactcommunities@sequoiachurch.org)

**Blessed Are You**  
**April 14, 2024**

- 1) What has God revealed to you through the **Gospel Reading Challenge** this week? What have you learned or been able to apply?
- 2) Read Matthew 5:1-12. What is the **Context** for this passage? Where is this taking place in the book as a whole (what comes before or after)? Who is the writer and who are the recipients? Where does it fit in the Bible?
- 3) **Observation:** What “jumps out” in this passages? What interesting details do you observe? What questions come up about the passage? What is the major theme in the passage? What do you notice about how Jesus describes those who are “blessed”?
- 4) **Meaning:** What was the meaning for the original recipients? What meaning is inferred in this passage for us about being blessed as a part of God's Kingdom?
- 5) How does this change your view of blessing in your life?
- 6) **Application:** How is God speaking to you through this passage?