

LIFEgroup STUDY GUIDE

What you will need to supplement this guide:

- 1. A copy of the outline provided for notes on this message (copy from message or downloaded from the COASTAL APP.
- 2. A Bible or Bible APP to refer to verses.

PURSUING LIFE TOGETHER

SUNDAY MESSAGE REVIEW

NOTE to the LIFEgroup Leader: This guide is provided as a tool to assist you in facilitating a structured discussion with your group. When used in conjunction with the outline notes and a Bible this tool will ensure that your group will *Engage Authentically*. The questions are merely recommended "talk starters". It is important for you to let God help you navigate through the conversation as you *pursue life together* as a group.

OPEN IN PRAYER

STARTER QUESTIONS:

Where have you seen God at work in your life since we last met?

What stood out to you from the message this week?

MAIN IDEA:

- REVIEW THE MAIN TOPIC OF THE MESSAGE. Allow time for discussion
- READ THE MAIN SCRIPTURE FROM THE MESSAGE OUTLINE.

How did this verse speak to you in your life?

REVIEW THE SUB-TOPICS of the MESSAGE.

Have someone read each of the verses that were highlighted in the message, and briefly discuss.

Is there an area that you feel God is speaking to you through this message?

FINAL THOUGHTS:

SUMMARIZE the main idea of this message.

Would anyone like to share your thoughts about what we discussed today? How can we pray for you as a group?

CLOSE IN PRAYER

SERMON ON THE MOUNT "Happiness" (Matt. 5:1-12)

"Four score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent, a new nation, conceived in Liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal... we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain -- that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom -- and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth."

Abraham Lincoln - November 19, 1863

"When Jesus had finished saying these things, the crowds were amazed at his teaching, because he taught as one who had authority, and not as their teachers of the law."

Matt 7:28- 29 (NIV)

During much of the middle ages, the Bible was only translated into Latin, and the Latin word for "blessed" is "beati" ... so these became known as the beatitudes.

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven." Matthew 5:3 (NIV)

God can only pour into those who are not so full of themselves.

"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted." Matthew 5:4 (NIV)

There is a <u>progression</u> through the Beatitudes - they build on each other.

"Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth." Matthew 5:5 (NIV)

[&]quot;You are the light of the world."

[&]quot;An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth."

[&]quot;Turn the other cheek."

[&]quot;Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

[&]quot;You cannot serve both God and money."

[&]quot;Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to your life?"

[&]quot;Do not judge, or you too will be judged"

[&]quot;By their fruit you will know them."

Meekness is not weakness!

- Jesus was meek and humble (Matt. 11:29), yet He drove the money changers from the temple.
- Moses was meek and humble (Num. 12:3), yet he stood toe to toe with the most powerful ruler (Pharaoh) in the world.

"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled."

Matthew 5:6 (NIV)

Jesus didn't say, "Blessed are those who <u>ARE</u> righteous..." because He knows we're not perfect.

"Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy."

Mathew 5:7 (NIV)

Mercy tends to flow into the life that gives it to others.

"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God."

Matthew 5:8 (NIV)

"What happiness for those whose guilt has been forgiven. What relief for those who have confessed their sins and God has cleared their record." Psalm 32:1-2 (TLB)

There's nothing like finding forgiveness from God and having him clear your record!!!

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God." Matthew 5:9 (NIV)

If you are a peacemaker, you will be marked as someone who is <u>like your Father</u> in heaven.

"Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

Matthew 5:10-12 (NIV)

Jesus didn't teach the good life – He taught the right life.

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."

Matt. 5:3-10 (NIV)