

From The Mountain Week 1: The Beatitudes Part 1

A Message For The Masses: The "Sermon on The Mount" is the most well known sermon from Jesus' earthly ministry. It is a staple sermon used to describe what it means to be a citizen of God's kingdom, the attributes of christian life. We will spend 21 weeks diving into this sermon in hopes to challenge, instruct, and inspire us in our walk with Christ.

KEY SCRIPTURE

- Matthew 5:1-5
- Titus 3:1-7
- James 4:7-10

VERSE BY VERSE

1. Matthew 5:1-3

- **BLESSED** This word is best described as "God given happiness" or "divine happiness". This is not a state we can earn or create on our own. This is a spiritual state of life only found in Christ.
- <u>"Poor In Spirit"</u> Spiritual poverty. Understanding we have nothing to offer apart from Christ and the Holy Spirit. Realizing our spiritual cup is empty, and the Lord is offering to fill it up with Himself, bringing us into His justification and moving us towards perfection in Him through sanctification. And the promise of having the *kingdom of God* is not based on what we bring to the table, but based on His grace and mercy.
 - Step 1 on our journey as citizens of God's kingdom. Before we are to be able to apply any of these other attributes we must recognize our need.
- <u>"Mourning"</u> Not casual sorrow, but the deepest form of grief possible. A godly sorrow that leads to repentance and comfort from the Lord (2 Corinthians 7:10). To realize the weight of our sin and it's offense against God. Grief is on our path, but not our destination.

- <u>"The Meek"</u> defined as power under control. Submission and humility towards God and towards man. This was made so clear in Christ's crucifixion, He had the power to come down, but submitted to His Father's will on our behalf. The hope in knowing even if we feel pushed out of the world, as Christians, the promise is that we will *inherit the earth*.
- Questions:
- Can you describe moments in your life of these attributes being manifested? (poor in spirit, mourning, meekness)
- 2. In what ways are you relying on Jesus daily?

WEEKLY CHALLENGE

- 1. Read Matthew 5:1-9 to reflect on the first set of beatitudes and prepare yourself for part 2 of the beatitudes.
- 2. Reflect on your relationship with Jesus. Pray that He would help you to apply these attributes to your life. Also pray that He would help you to see the weight of your sin and the spiritual poverty we live in when we are not close to Him.

FOR THE FAMILY

- 1. **GOAL**: Dedicate 15 mins of ONE night this week
- 2. **READING:** Read James 4:7-10 and discuss 5 ways you as a family can draw near to God.
 - Help your family understand that the way we grow and move forward in our spiritual lives is drawing near to God, seeking Him for understanding, wisdom, and instruction.
- 3. **PRAY:** Ask for prayer request from your family. Pray for your family and pray that God would grow your trust in His plan, His instruction and His way.