

# THE BEATITUDES

## MATTHEW 5:5



### OPENING

- Reread Matthew 5:1-5 together and summarize what you have learned about the Beatitudes thus far.

### SERMON REVIEW

- Humanity values strength, power, accomplishment, and advancement. As a result, we want everyone to know the best of what we do, even when it comes to our faith. However, the one in whom we place our faith values meekness.
- Meekness tends to make us think of weakness, but it's really defined as being quiet, gentle, submissive, peaceful, and humble.
- Meekness isn't weakness, getting taken advantage of, mindless disengagement, or lack of courage.
- Meekness is exercising strength under God's control; it's letting go of our rights to embrace his plans. The meek put their trust and confidence in the Father, rather than trying to push their own agenda.
- Strength and surrender, simultaneously. Biblical examples include Moses (Numbers 12:3) and Jesus (Matthew 11:28-29).
- At no point was Jesus weak, but he realized that the Father's way had to be followed.
- Understand who you are not and be aware of who God is - maintaining a posture of the heart and soul that reflects such awareness.

### DISCUSSION

- If this beatitude was spoken by the world, what would it say?
- Just exactly how countercultural would you consider meekness?
- In what ways did Jesus exemplify meekness (as defined above)? How did he demonstrate strength with humility and gentleness?
- Is it important to have a proper view of oneself in relation to God? How could it impact one's way of life?
- Is meekness passive or active in the life of a disciple?
- In terms of the greater biblical narrative, what's the significance of the word "inherit"? Consider its connotations, from the Exodus to Revelation 21:1-8.
- What do we inherit as members of the Body of Christ? Take a look at passages such as 1 Corinthians 3:21-23, Ephesians 1:11-14, Colossians 1:12, Hebrews 9:15, and 1 Peter 1:4-5 to inform your answer.

## CHALLENGE

- Ask God to show you the power of gentleness, humility, and submission. Pray that others would be able to notice his meekness in you!
- Exercise strength under God's control by embracing the plans he has for you. Trust him enough to walk the path he has laid out before you.

## PLAN AHEAD

- Matthew 5:6 will be our focus next Sunday. Take some time to ponder it!