

TAKE HOME SHEET



Series: Kingdom Matters
Message: Blessed are the Troubled
Speaker: Rusty Coram
Date: March 9/10, 2019

Here is a summary of what we covered in Jesus' sermon from Matthew 5:1-12. Slowly read each one and ask yourself where you are with each. Are there some that you sense you are doing well and growing in? Some that need significant attention?

poor – humbly recognize I am far from God due to my own fault and I need forgiveness

mourn – broken over what I have done without any excuses

humble – ready to accept God's forgiveness and mercy and learn to live a new life

hunger and thirst for justice – ongoing desire to learn and apply what God says is true and right

merciful – showing others the same grace and mercy that God has given me

pure in heart – guiding desire to please and honor God in all that I think and do

work for peace – live to show and tell others the great news of God's love and grace

Jesus is clear that persecution and trouble are going to be part of our life as we follow Him. A great example of this happened early in the life of Jesus' disciples. Read the account of what happened and ask God to help you see what you can learn, as they applied Jesus' teaching to the situation.

²⁶ The captain went with his Temple guards and arrested the apostles, but without violence, for they were afraid the people would stone them. ²⁷ Then they brought the apostles before the high council, where the high priest confronted them. ²⁸ "Didn't we tell you never again to teach in this man's name?" he demanded. "Instead, you have filled all Jerusalem with your teaching about him, and you want to make us responsible for his death!" ²⁹ But Peter and the apostles replied, "We must obey God rather than any human authority. ³⁰ The God of our ancestors raised Jesus from the dead after you killed him by hanging him on a cross. ³¹ Then God put him in the place of honor at his right hand as Prince and Savior. He did this so the people of Israel would repent of their sins and be forgiven. ³² We are witnesses of these things and so is the Holy Spirit, who is given by God to those who obey him." ³³ When they heard this, the high council was furious and decided to kill them. ³⁴ But one member, a Pharisee named Gamaliel, who was an expert in religious law and respected by all the people, stood up and ordered that the men be sent outside the council chamber for a while. ³⁵ Then he said to his colleagues, "Men of Israel, take care what you are planning to do to these men! ³⁶ Some time ago there was that fellow Theudas, who pretended to be someone great. About 400 others joined him, but he was killed, and all his followers went their various ways. The whole movement came to nothing. ³⁷ After him, at the time of the census, there was Judas of Galilee. He got people to follow him, but he was killed, too, and all his followers were scattered. ³⁸ "So my advice is, leave these men alone. Let them go. If they are planning and doing these things merely on their own, it will soon be overthrown. ³⁹ But if it is from God, you will not be able to overthrow them. You may even find yourselves fighting against God!" ⁴⁰ The others accepted his advice. They called in the apostles and had them flogged. Then they ordered them never again to speak in the name of Jesus, and they let them go. ⁴¹ The apostles left the high council rejoicing that God had counted them worthy to suffer disgrace for the name of Jesus. ⁴² And every day, in the Temple and from house to house, they continued to teach and preach this message: "Jesus is the Messiah."

Acts 5:26-42 (NLT)

BIBLE TRANSLATIONS:

MSG – The Message

NIV – New International Version

NLT – New Living Translation

MESSAGE NOTES



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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.

Matthew 5:10-12 (NLT)

persecution (def): to cause someone to suffer because of their belief

Persecution that Jesus is addressing has a specific reason.

Do you remember what I told you?...Since they persecuted me, naturally they will persecute you.
John 15:20 (NLT)

In fact, everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted.
2 Timothy 3:12 (NIV)

Persecution takes all kinds of forms.

Persecution calls for careful response.

Pray for yourself...

I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being.
Ephesians 3:16 (NIV)

and pray for your enemy!

You have heard the law that says, 'Love your neighbor' and hate your enemy. ⁴⁴ But I say, love your enemies! Pray for those who persecute you!

Matthew 5:43-44 (NLT)

Persevere - without plotting pay-back

For God called you to do good, even if it means suffering, just as Christ suffered for you. He is your example, and you must follow in his steps. ²² He never sinned, nor ever deceived anyone. ²³ He did not retaliate when he was insulted, nor threaten revenge when he suffered. He left his case in the hands of God, who always judges fairly.

1 Peter 2:21-23 (NLT)

Have a party.

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.

Matthew 5:12 (NLT)

4 reasons this isn't crazy talk:

Persecution is evidence that God's Spirit is working in your life.

So be happy when you are insulted for being a Christian, for then the glorious Spirit of God rests upon you.

1 Peter 4:14 (NLT)

Persecution is a badge of honor.

The apostles left the high council rejoicing that God had counted them worthy to suffer disgrace for the name of Jesus.

Acts 5:41 (NLT)

Persecution is temporary.

For our present troubles are small and won't last very long.

2 Corinthians 4:17 (NLT)

Persecution is followed by a great homecoming!

And we know we are going to get what's coming to us—an unbelievable inheritance! We go through exactly what Christ goes through. If we go through the hard times with him, then we're certainly going to go through the good times with him!

Romans 8:17 (MSG)



Jesus was no stranger to politics, power struggles or jockeying for authority. He knew how the world operated and how the quest for control corrupted people and institutions. In the midst of the struggle, Jesus offered an alternative – the gift of an invitation to a new kingdom. All who accepted would discover a ruler devoted to his citizens, who would never mistreat or abandon them. That invitation is still open to us. This kingdom has a very different set of beliefs, values and behaviors that in many ways seem upside down. In this series, we will study what Jesus tells us about His kingdom and how His followers live. ***This week: Blessed are the Troubled.***

FIRST TIME GUESTS We promise we're not going to make you stand up in front of everyone or track you down, but we'd love to know you were here today! Simply fill out your communication card in the seat back in front of you and check the "First Time Guest" box. On your way out, stop by Guest Services at the front doors and get your FREE welcome gift. **We're glad you are here!**



We're honored when people choose to do church with us. New Hope is for anyone who wants to seek God - from those exploring if God even exists, to devoted Christ-followers. Wherever you are, you'll find we are committed to showing the love of Jesus and helping people establish a relationship with Him. We are casual, laid-back, and far from perfect. **ALL are welcome!**



A NEW WOMEN'S SMALL GROUP is starting Wednesday, April 10th at 7:00 pm in Lorton. This group is for single/divorced/widowed women in their 50s and 60s, who are "empty nesters" and/or no kids, looking to make connections with other women going through the same life experiences. They will begin with an eight-session, video-based study called, *Community*. You'll learn why your unique story matters to God and to the people you do life with. Contact Carol Ann at carolann.gregoire@newhope.org to sign up or get more information.

Looking for a different group? Email smallgroups@newhope.org

SAVE *the* DATE



**HER Ministry Project
Opportunity Easter Baskets
Wednesday, April 10th**



**Bike Collection for
NicaBikes in Nicaragua
April 27/28th**



**Hits For Hunger
Saturday, May 4th**

Parent/Child Dedication



It's not too late to sign up! Our spring Parent/Child Dedication will be on Saturday, March 23rd at 10 am. Please stop by the children's check-in counter or Guest Services to pick up the Parent Booklet. For more information or to sign up, please email **PCD@newhope.org**.

LEE STROBEL

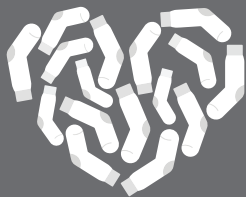
Calling all men!

THE
CASE
FOR
CHRIST

Please join us for our next Men's Breakfast on Saturday, March 30th at 7am. Great food and conversation guaranteed. We will be watching and discussing "The Case for Christ" by Lee Strobel. The cost is \$5 per man - guests are free.

Sign up today at
bit.ly/marchmen.

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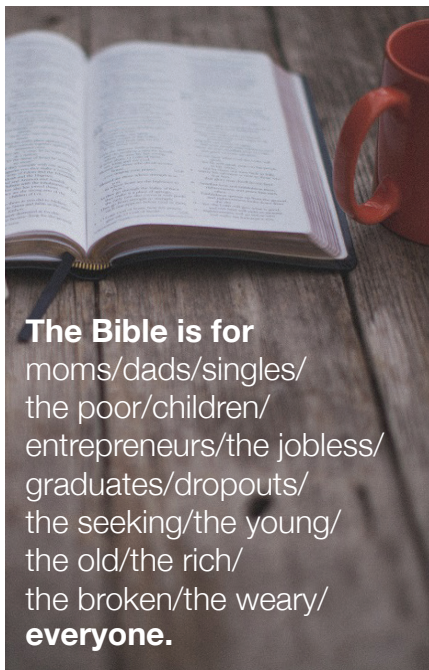
BLOOD DRIVE
GOAL - 28 UNITS
GIVEN - 39 UNITS



This weekend, we are recognizing a Super Star couple that have been serving faithfully since 2011! **Elaine and George Ward** have been a constant presence on our volunteer schedule for eight years and we don't know what we would do without them. Elaine plays keyboard for our Worship Team and serves on our Greeter/Usher Team. George serves on our

Security Team ensuring our safety. Both Elaine and George step up to fill vacancies so often you will see them serving multiple services a month.

Thank you Elaine and George! Volunteers like you are the backbone of New Hope and we appreciate you more than you know! If you are interested in joining one of our ministry teams, contact Carol Ann at carolann.gregoire@newhope.org and she will help you find a team that is right for you.



The Bible is for
moms/dads/singles/
the poor/children/
entrepreneurs/the jobless/
graduates/dropouts/
the seeking/the young/
the old/the rich/
the broken/the weary/
everyone.

Welcome to the 2019 Bible Reading Plan! This year, we are reading through the New Testament chronologically, meaning we will read the events in the order they are believed to have occurred. Pick up a hard copy of the plan at Guest Services or download it at nhcbrp.com and print it out. You can also follow along from week to week on your phone or computer online at nhcbrp.com or by following any of the New Hope Church social media accounts at nhclorton. Just spending a few minutes each day in God's Word is not only doable, but has the power to be life changing! It's never too late to join us in this challenge and watch what God does in your heart and life this year.

newhope
CHURCH

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