

THE BEATITUDES: A KINGDOM PERSPECTIVE ON PEOPLE WHO ARE BLESSED

Matthew 5:1-12

Awareness

Before listening, reflect:

- What do you think it means to be “blessed”?
- Do you consider yourself blessed? Why or why not?

Studying what we now refer to as the Beatitudes provides us with the opportunity to view the world and ourselves from God’s kingdom perspective. Jesus opens his famous Sermon on the Mount with a list of qualities and their rewards that challenges our earthly perspective and understanding of who among us is blessed. By allowing Jesus’ teaching to comfort and instruct us, we gain a better understanding of who we are called to be as redeemed followers of Jesus Christ.

Listen: [*The Beatitudes: A Kingdom Perspective on People who are Blessed*](#)

Reflection

After listening, consider:

- In segment 1, what do hosts Scott Hoezee and Darrell Delaney mean by “entrance requirements”—entrance to what? Why is it crucial to remember that the Beatitudes are not entrance requirements?
- For Christians, the Beatitudes from Matthew 5:1-12 can serve both as a source of reassuring comfort and as a plumbline of accountability. Of the eight Beatitudes studied in this episode, which one reassured you the most? Similarly, which one challenged you and held you accountable at this time?
- Choose and reflect deeper on one or more of the following Beatitudes:
 - Verse 3 “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.” Consider again the definition Darrell offers for what it means to be poor in spirit: “...those are people who *know* they are in desperate need of God’s grace and his love and his mercy, and they are humble enough to admit that even though externally they may be looking very successful to the world...” By this definition, do you think of yourself as poor in spirit? Why or why not? Do you think your thoughts, words, and actions reflect this?
 - Verse 4 “Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.” What are some of the godly sorrows you mourn? Is everything we mourn a godly sorrow? How do you describe the difference?
 - Verse 7 “Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.” Is mercy difficult to give and/or receive? Why?
 - Verse 9 “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.” Why is the difference between *peacekeeping* and *peacemaking* so important? Can you think of examples that illustrate the difference between *peacekeeping* and *peacemaking* in life? Which resulted in mutual

flourishing?

Related Passages

- **Luke 6:17-49**
- **Isaiah 40:1-2**
- **Psalm 37**
- **Matthew 18:21-25**
- **Psalm 24:3-6**
- **Psalm 51:1-12**
- **John 15:18-25**
- **James 1:2-18**

Conclusion

Now that you've studied Jesus' kingdom perspective on who is blessed, reconsider the opening awareness question: Do you consider yourself blessed? Why or why not? Have a prayerful conversation with God about your answer.

<https://groundworkonline.com/episodes/the-beatitudes-a-kingdom-perspective-on-people-who-are-blessed>

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