

Week of June 5 - 11 "Attitude Check"

Read: Matthew 5:1-12

1 Seeing the crowds, he went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him. 2 And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying: 3 "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. 4 "Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. 5 "Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth. 6 "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied 7 "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy. 8 "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God. 9 "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God. 10 "Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. 11 "Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. 12 Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

Talk: *(Discuss the following questions together.)*

1. In vv. 1-2 we see that Jesus' disciples gathered around as He began to teach. How often do you allow yourself to be in a position for Jesus to teach you something? What steps can you take to make that happen more often?
2. Which of the Beattitudes that Jesus lists in vv. 3-10 do you like the most? Why?
3. Which one of these Beattitudes do you struggle with the most? Why? What steps can you take to put this principle into practice in your life?
4. In the Beattitudes Jesus promises that God will "bless" those who do these things. What is a blessing? How has God blessed you?
5. In vv.11-12 Jesus promises to bless us, when we are persecuted for following Him.
6. Have you (or someone you know) ever been persecuted for following Jesus? What was it like? How did God bless you?

Pray: *(List the prayer needs for those in your group.)*

Prepare: Read Matthew 5:13-16

13 "You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people's feet. 14 "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. 15 Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. 16 In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.