

## Matthew (Sermon on the Mount)

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The Sermon on the Mount was Jesus' first public teaching exposition. Jesus is setting the stage for the rest of His earthly and eternal ministry. He lays out the foundational truths of His Kingdom. He is defining His personal character to be followed.

### Matthew 5:1-6

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.*

### Redefining “Blessed”

- Blessed – (Greek; *makrios*) This word is often translated to “happy.” It could even be translated as a holy congratulations.

We mostly only understand it through the lens of Western values but remember Isaiah 55:8-9. Jesus’ thoughts and ways are better and so we need to redefine the word “blessed” through the lens of Scripture.

Other Scriptures that challenge our view of being blessed: Psalm 41:1; 94:12; 112:1; James 1:12; Matthew 11:6

- The meek – (Greek; *praus*) gentle in spirit, so no disputing or resisting the things of God. A poor and mournful heart will work humility and will produce meekness in your life.

Cf. **Matthew 20:11, 28; 21:2-11; Philippians 2:1-11**

*16 So the last will be first, and the first last.”*

*28 even as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”*

**Humility before God is being poor in spirit; humility before others is meekness.**

- They shall inherit the earth – those who are meek can be trusted with God’s creation. Cf. Psalm 138:6; Proverbs 3:34; Proverbs 29:23; Matthew 23:12; Luke 1:52; James 4:6; 1 Peter 5:5

Humility (poverty in spirit, mourning, and meekness) is a divine revelation from God of who I am.

**The beatitudes are what Jesus is like and what He likes.**

### **Discipleship Homework:**

The Beatitudes are filled with so much counter-cultural truth that it each one could be its own mini-teaching series. Don't rush through each value of the Kingdom of God but meditate and wrestle with the culture Jesus is inviting us in to.

- Is our definition of blessedness similar with Jesus'?
- Consider each of the values taught on Sunday: poverty of spirit, mourning, meekness, and hunger and thirst for righteousness. Does our value system align with Jesus'? If not, continuing prayers of repentance. Ask Jesus to change your thoughts with His truth and for the Holy Spirit to lead you in His ways.