

Recap from last week:

Luke 5:1-11

- Obedience to God regardless of past experiences leads to results that go beyond our expectations.
- Answering His call transforms lives from ordinary to extraordinary

BLESSED ARE...

THE BEATITUDES | BE·AT·I·TUDE = SUPREME BLESSEDNESS



- 1 Now when Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him, 2 and he began to teach them. He said:
- 3 "Blessed are the **poor in spirit**, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
- 4 Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be **comforted**.
- 5 Blessed are the **meek**, for they will **inherit** the earth.
- 6 Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for **righteousness**, for they will be filled.
- 7 Blessed are the **merciful**, for they will be shown mercy.
- 8 Blessed are the **pure in heart**, for they will see God.
- 9 Blessed are the **peacemakers**, for they will be called children of God.
- 10 Blessed are those who are **persecuted** because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
- 11 "Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. 12 Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.





First...introduce yourselves:)

Choose which "Blessed Are..." verses you want to study. Whatever you don't finish tonight, you can use for home study.

*Tip: Use a Bible Dictionary & Commentary on the words that are in bold on page 1.

The basket of resources are your tools!

*Optional: Write your findings in the Bible Study Worksheet provided.

Observe:

- Which verse stands out the most? Why?
- What is the broader context of this passage?
 - ie. Book, chapter, surrounding verses, author & recipient
- What questions does this passage raise for you?

Interpret:

- What do you believe this passage means?
- Compare your interpretation with a trusted commentary.

Apply:

- How can you apply this passage to your life?
- What specific steps can you take to put this passage into practice?
- What obstacles might you face in applying this passage?





NOW, LET'S READ THE AFTER-SUMMARY TOGETHER

Matthew 5:1-12, known as the *Beatitudes*, offers guidance and encouragement for our daily walk. The call to be "poor in spirit" emphasizes the importance of humility and a deep reliance on God, especially in a world that often values self-sufficiency and pride. This humility is about recognizing that our strength doesn't come from ourselves but from our relationship with God, leading us to make decisions rooted in faith and not in worldly wisdom. When we mourn, whether it's over personal loss or the chaos we see in society, we can find comfort in God's promises and the hope that He provides, encouraging us to trust in His plan even when life feels overwhelming.

The *Beatitudes* also call us to live out our faith through actions that reflect Christ's teachings. Being meek, for instance, involves practicing self-control and patience in our relationships, choosing to respond with gentleness instead of reacting with anger or frustration. Showing mercy in our daily interactions might mean offering forgiveness to those who have wronged us, reflecting the grace we've received from God. Hungering and thirsting for righteousness challenges us to actively pursue justice and integrity, both in our personal lives and within our communities, standing firm in our values even when they are countercultural. By embracing these principles, we build a life that honors God and sets an example for others to follow, rooted in a deep commitment to living out our faith in practical and meaningful ways.



LET'S CONCLUDE WITH REFLECTION QUESTIONS:

- In what areas of your life do you need to practice more humility and reliance on God, and how can this shift in perspective influence your daily decisions and relationships?
- How can you show meekness and mercy in your interactions with others, particularly in situations where you might be tempted to react with frustration or hold onto grudges?
- What steps can you take to actively pursue righteousness and justice in your personal life and within your community, even when these actions may go against the prevailing culture or require personal sacrifice?

Bur Prayer For You...

Father God, we come to You seeking the strength and grace to live out the Beatitudes in our everyday lives. Help us to stay humble, recognizing our need for You in all that we do. Comfort us in our struggles and losses, and guide us to be gentle and patient with



others. Give us a deep desire to pursue what is right and just, and help us to show mercy and forgiveness in our relationships. Purify our hearts so we can see You clearly, and empower us to bring peace in a world that often feels chaotic. When we face challenges for living out our faith, remind us of the

eternal hope we have in You. In Jesus name, amen!



