

This page is designed for you to apply what you have learned from the Scriptures. Our goal is not just "to know" but to "act upon what

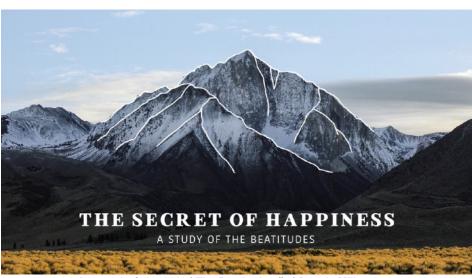
we know." (His Word, Our Walk!) We encourage you to discuss the following questions with family, friends or your group.

For Discussion:

- 1. What do you really want more than anything else? Why?
- 2. What are some of the things that lead you away from righteousness, and how can you plan to avoid them in the future?
- 3. What was most helpful in the fourth Beatitude?

"Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you — Matt. 5:11-12 #4 Blessed are those who #8 Blessed are those who are hunger and thirst for persecuted because of righteousness, for they will be righteousness, for theirs is the filled. kingdom of heaven. — Matt. 5:6 - Matt. 5:10 #3 Blessed are the meek, for #7 Blessed are the they will inherit the earth. peacemakers, for they will be — Matt. 5:5 called children of God. - Matt. 5:9 #2 Blessed are those who #6 Blessed are the pure in mourn, for they will be heart, for they will see God. comforted. - Matt. 5:8 - Matt. 5:4 #5 Blessed are the merciful, #1 "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom for they will be shown mercy. of heaven. — Matt. 5:7 - Matt. 5:3

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August 17 & 18, 2019 | The Beatitudes #5 | Dennis Miller, pastor

LESSONS

- 1. God's understanding of happiness is much like YOURS. His method of obtaining it may seem ODD to you, but in the end, you will find TRUE happiness.
- 2. The Beatitudes are an announcement of what you already HAVE in Christ, but they are also the RECIPE for the kind of person you want to become.

THE SCRIPTURES

Matt. 5:1 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:

Matt. 5:3 "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.

Matt. 5:11 "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

LET'S REVIEW

- 1. Jesus went up on a mountainside, SAT DOWN, and taught this material to His DISCIPLES. The crowd listened in.
- 2. Jesus used the word "blessed" to begin EACH one of these statements. In the Greek, this word is makarios ($\mu\alpha\kappa\alpha\rho$) which means HAPPY, fortunate, or well-off.
- 3. These statements are the OUTLINE of all that Jesus would teach in His ministry: concepts and parables. If you KNOW (and live) these Beatitudes, you can be a disciple of Jesus.
- 4. The first Beatitude is a reminder that we have NOTHING to offer God towards our SALVATION. We are beggars who have hope only in the WORK of Jesus Christ. This is our FIRST response to God and gives to us the Kingdom of Heaven.
- 5. The second Beatitude reminds us of how much we HATE our sin to the point of mourning over it like we would the DEATH of a loved one. This mourning over sin brings great COMFORT.
- 6. The third Beatitude encourages us to be MEEK, (keeping our power under control) and to YIELD our lives to Christ. There are great REWARDS for this (inherit the earth).

BEATITUDE #4

Matt.5:6 Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

BLESSED — HAPPY or fortunate.

ARE THOSE — This is PRESENT tense and CONTINUAL.

WHO HUNGER AND THIRST — the Greek words for hunger (peinaō, πεινάω) and thirst (dipsaō, διψάω) are very STRONG. These words involve suffering and EXTREME longing; or an insatiable DESIRE. They are also PRESENT and continual. (We understood this concept as small children!)

That which you truly DESIRE matters greatly to God.

1Kings 8:18 But the LORD said to my father David, 'You did well to have it in your heart to build a temple for my Name.19 Nevertheless, you are not the one to build the temple, but your son, your own flesh and blood—he is the one who will build the temple for my Name.'

When the Prodigal Son was HUNGRY, he ate the corn husks; but when he was STARVING, he returned to his father.

Luke 15:16 He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything. 17"When he came to his senses, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have food to spare, and here I am starving to death!

FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS — This word is dikaiosynē (δικαιοσύνη) and means "the CONDITION acceptable to God" (integrity, virtue, purity). This is the NATURAL next step for a believer— to CHOOSE a life of purity!

Someone who seeks this righteousness desires to live LIKE CHRIST as much as possible.

FOR THEY — This means "ONLY they" or "they ALONE".

WILL BE FILLED — This word is chortazō (χορτάζω) and is a STRONG verb that indicates you are fully SATIATED.

Matt. 14:20 They all ate and were satisfied (chortazō, χορτάζω), and the disciples picked up twelve basketfuls of broken pieces that were left over.

Later, Jesus promised spiritual SATISFACTION.

John 4:14 but whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life."

John 6:51 I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats this bread will live forever. This bread is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world."

However, this Beatitude is a bit circular because even though you are filled (satiated), you will continue to hunger and thirst!

How Can I Know If I Am Living the Fourth Beatitude?

- 1. Your GREATEST desire is to be PURE (righteous).
- 2. You rejoice when righteousness "WINS".
- 3. You are dissatisfied with your CURRENT state of righteousness.
- 4. You define your righteousness by LOVE, and not be LAW.
 - 5. Possessions and PRESTIGE mean LESS and LESS to you as you follow Christ.
- 6. You are seeking to KNOW His Word because of your desire to be LIKE Him.