



June 1, 2025
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Matthew 5:1-12

Introduction

This sermon explores Jesus' Beatitudes from Matthew 5, challenging modern definitions of 'the good life.' The pastor contrasts worldly success and materialism with Jesus' teachings about true blessing, explaining that genuine blessing isn't found in external achievements but in who we are becoming in Christ. The sermon breaks down each Beatitude, showing how Jesus redefines blessing through spiritual poverty, mourning, meekness, hunger for righteousness, mercy, purity of heart, and peacemaking.

Key Texts:

Matthew 5:2-12, Psalm 24:3-4

Icebreaker

What was your definition of 'the good life' when you were younger, and how has that changed over time?

Discussion Questions

1. How does Jesus' definition of blessing differ from our culture's definition?
2. What does it mean to be 'poor in spirit,' and why is this the first Beatitude?
3. How can we cultivate true meekness without becoming passive or weak?
4. What does it mean to hunger and thirst for righteousness in practical terms?
5. How does experiencing God's mercy change how we show mercy to others?
6. What are some practical ways we can be peacemakers in our daily lives?
7. How can we maintain pure hearts in a world full of distractions and temptations?
8. Why might living out the Beatitudes lead to persecution, and how should we respond?

Key Takeaways

- True blessing is found in who we are becoming in Christ, not in what we possess
- The Beatitudes present an upside-down kingdom where humility and dependence on God are valued over worldly success
- Living out the Beatitudes transforms both our internal character and our external relationships
- Being blessed doesn't mean having an easy life, but having God's presence and favor even in difficulties

Notes