

BEATITUDES

WEEK ONE

"THE POOR AND THOSE WHO MOURN"

SUNDAY 3 JANUARY 2021 | PASTOR CLEM FUNG

Bible passage - Matthew 5:3-4

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.

BEATITUDES

WEEK ONE

"THE POOR AND THOSE WHO MOURN"

SUNDAY 3 JANUARY 2021 | PASTOR CLEM FUNG

Sermon notes.

1. Intro to the Beatitudes

- What is the good life?
- This is about life in the Kingdom; it is meant for disciples vv1-2 cf. Matt 28:19-20
- Behaviour and Character

2. v3 - "Blessed are the poor in spirit ..."

- 'Poor' might be better translated as 'destitute'
- Only when we are that kind of poor in spirit, do we surrender everything - then Jesus is King

3. v4 - "Blessed are those who mourn ..."

- Deeper than bereavement
- Biblical comfort cf. Isaiah 40:1-3; 61:1-3; Rev 7:17. Who are the ones who will be comforted in this way?
- Sorrow over _____.



BEATITUDES

WEEK ONE

"THE POOR AND THOSE WHO MOURN"

SUNDAY 3 JANUARY 2021 | PASTOR CLEM FUNG

Discussion questions.

1. Before today, what examples might you have given that God has “blessed” (or “not blessed”) your life?
2. Are you truly destitute in spirit? What other ‘means’ do you turn to, to prop up your soul?
3. How much and how often do you sorrow over sin; in yourself first and then in the world?

BEATITUDES

THE MEEK, THE RIGHTEOUS & THE MERCIFUL

SUNDAY 10 JANUARY 2021 | MARK LO

Bible passage - Matthew 5:5-7

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.

BEATITUDES

THE MEEK, THE RIGHTEOUS & THE MERCIFUL

SUNDAY 10 JANUARY 2021 | MARK LO

Sermon Notes.

1. Brief Recap

- a. "Beatitude" is the intro to "The Sermon on the Mount" a sermon in its entirety – a full discourse
- b. The 8 Beatitudes are closely related and not random philosophical sayings

2. Those who are Meek

Who qualifies to receive this blessing?
What is meekness?
What does inherit the earth mean?

3. Those who Hunger or Thirst for Righteousness

What does the scripture say about hungering and thirsting for righteousness?
Why and how to "continuous" hunger or thirst for righteousness?
A paradox of "hungering" and be "filled"

4. Those who are Merciful

Who do we show mercy to?
What examples of mercy may we find in the scriptures?

5. Our Take Away

BEATITUDES

THE MEEK, THE RIGHTEOUS & THE MERCIFUL

SUNDAY 10 JANUARY 2021 | MARK LO

Discussion questions.

1. Would you consider yourself “meek” in the light of our new definition?

Discuss your thoughts on submission to:

- a. God (Matthew 26:39)
 - b. His Words (James 1:21), and
 - c. God’s people (II Tim 4:16; I Peter 2:23,24)
- (choose one if time prohibits full discussions of all 4) :

How to submit:

- When you are opposed (Moses - Numbers 12:3)
- When you are provoked (King David - II Sam 16:11)
- When you are disappointed (Paul - II Tim 4:16)
- When you are wrongfully judged, injured (Jesus - I Peter 2:23,24)

2. Share your journey on “continuous hunger/thirst for righteousness”.

3. “Mercy should be evident in the lives of believers.” Discuss.

BEATITUDES

PURE AND PEACEMAKERS

SUNDAY 17 JANUARY 2021 | MARCUS WONG

Bible passage

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.

- Matthew 5:8-9 NIV

Notes:

- Certain characteristics make up for a good quality life.
- The Beatitudes show us what characteristics make for a blessed life in God's eyes and in His kingdom
- "Pure in heart" means a single-mindedness on the kingdom and inner moral purity.
- "Peacemakers" are not just people who are peaceful. They are 'shalom' makers.
- Jesus' followers are blessed because God reveals His kingdom through them.
- We often think the quality of our life is determined by what happens to us. Jesus taught that the quality of our life is determined by what happens inside us.

Application:

Let's ask God to change our hearts so that we can face the situation.

What situation or who in your life needs the peace of Christ that Jesus has given you?

The Bottom Line:

Our quality of life depends on our heart condition and relationship status.



BEATITUDES

PURE AND PEACEMAKERS

SUNDAY 17 JANUARY 2021 | MARCUS WONG

Discussion questions.

- 1. What have you been looking to as an indicator of God's blessing in your life?**
- 2. Why do you think Jesus taught that the pure in heart will see God?**
- 3. What situation or who in your life needs the peace of Christ that you have been given?**

BEATITUDES

THE PERSECUTED

SUNDAY 24 JANUARY 2021 | PASTOR CLEM FUNG

Bible passage

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.

- Matthew 5:10-12 NIV

Introduction: Persecution has existed all through the ages, and even still.

The Reality:

- Eighth and final beatitude brings us full circle ... "theirs is the kingdom"
- As a follower of Jesus, persecution will happen to you (v. 11)

Suggested resources

- Open Doors (opendoors.org.au)
- Barnabas Fund (barnabasfund.org/au/)

Our Response: Can't control what other people do to you, but three things that are within your control:

1. Keep working on your _____ (v.10)

Beatitude 'exercise rings'

- B1: surrender
- B2: repent
- B3: submit
- B4: desire
- B5: reflect
- B6: align
- B7: reconcile
- B8: _____

BEATITUDES

THE PERSECUTED

SUNDAY 24 JANUARY 2021 | PASTOR CLEM FUNG

2. _____ with joy (v.12)

The Hall of Faith, Hebrews ch.11 cf. 12:1-3

3. Continue to _____ (vv.13-16)

General notes

Discussion questions.

1. How does the prospect of persecution make you feel?

2. When Jesus says, “rejoice and be glad,” how much comfort do you find in the reasons He gives (reward in heaven, in good company)?

3. Where is the Holy Spirit prompting you today (character, perseverance, engagement)?

BEATITUDES

ENCOURAGEMENT AND A WARNING

SUNDAY 31 JANUARY 2021 | PASTOR CLEM FUNG

Bible passage

20 Looking at his disciples, he said: "Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. **21** Blessed are you who hunger now, for you will be satisfied. Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh. **22** Blessed are you when people hate you, when they exclude you and insult you and reject your name as evil, because of the Son of Man. **23** Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, because great is your reward in heaven. For that is how their ancestors treated the prophets. **24** But woe to you who are rich, for you have already received your comfort. **25** Woe to you who are well fed now, for you will go hungry. Woe to you who laugh now, for you will mourn and weep. **26** Woe to you when everyone speaks well of you, for that is how their ancestors treated the false prophets." - **Luke 6:20-26 NIV**

Introduction: There is theological emphasis in Luke's account of the Beatitudes that is different from Matthew's account.

1. What's similar?

- Jesus welcomes and ministers to everyone
- This teaching however is meant for disciples
- Kingdom is not what most people would expect or desire
- If you follow Jesus, expect persecution

2. What's different/unique?

- There is a 'higher' call; you cannot stay shallow
- Jesus is speaking to you
- Personal internal character is the emphasis of Matthew's Beatitudes
- Luke's Beatitudes emphasise social external circumstances
- Very stern warning in good times



BEATITUDES

ENCOURAGEMENT AND A WARNING

SUNDAY 31 JANUARY 2021 | PASTOR CLEM FUNG

3. What it means

- Two kinds of people
- Two different times
- There will be a reversal and overturning of fortunes

4. Implication and application

- Warning: Our very real danger
- How do your circumstances affect you?

Discussion questions.

1. Wealth, health, and happiness ... How do these things (and the pursuit of them) help or hinder your faith?

2. Jesus gives very stern warning to those who are comfortable, have an abundance of things, and 'buy in' to the world. Does this apply to you? Why or why not?

3. How else is the Lord speaking to you today?