

Reading & Prayer

Jesus' Beatitudes

1 When Jesus saw the crowds, He went up on the mountain; and after He sat down, His disciples came to Him. 2 He opened His mouth and began to teach 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 gentle, for they shall inherit the earth.

6 Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

7 Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.

8 Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

9 Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the sons of God.

10 Blessed are those who have been persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

11 Blessed are you when people insult you and persecute you, and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of Me.

12 Rejoice and be glad, for your reward in heaven is great; for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

Notes

start reading. read together the main scripture for this study

reading #1

In reading these verses of scripture, what would you circle, highlight, or underline as important to know or understand? Is there anything you noticed for the first time?

What is one word or phrase the Holy Spirit impresses upon you? Meditate on that.

start thinking. ask a thoughtful question

Keep in mind that the theme of the beatitudes is the "availability of the kingdom."

What does it mean to be blessed?

What kind of peoples' life circumstances seem beyond blessing or hope today?

What has been your understanding of what Jesus taught in His beatitudes?

What does it mean for the blessing to be "in the kingdom" not "in the condition"?

How do you think the "down and out" people responded to Jesus when he didn't just spend His time with the "up and in"?

start sharing. engage it with your story

What specific situation in your life relates? Write down or pray.

What did the Holy Spirit speak to you personally about during the sermon? Was there anything that caught your attention, challenged you, or confused you?

Have you ever considered yourself "ineligible" for the kingdom of God? What circumstance may have caused such a thought?

start practicing. commit to a next step and live it out this week

What is Jesus' personal invitation to you from the scripture? You can write down what God may be saying to you or a prayer of thanks.

Who is someone you can share God's blessing with this week?

start praying. be bold and pray with power

prayer requests: