

LIFEgroups

OPEN

Go around and let everyone answer...

Have you ever moved to a place or job completely new and different from your previous experience?

How did you prepare for the changes you would encounter?

DIG

Read Matthew 5:3-10

Now go back and read just the phrases beginning with "God blesses".
(See excerpts in the "reading guide" at right for the selection of phrases.)

How are people who please God described in these verses?
When do people who please God start being like this?

Now read just the phrases beginning with "for".

What is life like for those who please God?
When do people who please God begin receiving these things?

What do you see as the most important message Jesus wants his listeners to take home?

In what ways might this message from Jesus change the way they think and live?

APPLY

Consider the message of Jesus again. Take a moment to consider these questions:

In what ways does your life now describe the life you expect to find in the Kingdom of God?

What areas of your life are incongruent with a life lived under God's Kingship?

Is there anything you would like to ask the group to pray with you about?

As group leader, please take time to pray for your group to live lives that reflect the Kingdom of God.

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Leaders

Sermon Series

This series, based on the Gospel of Matthew, illustrates how Jesus Christ is more than a great teacher. He is king of the universe.

Big Idea

Blessings come to those who are willing to live for God, so renew your commitment to please him.

READING GUIDE

Matthew 5:3-10

God blesses...

"God blesses those who are poor and realize their need for him,^[a]

⁴ God blesses those who mourn,

⁵ God blesses those who are humble,

⁶ God blesses those who hunger and thirst for justice,^[b]

⁷ God blesses those who are merciful,

⁸ God blesses those whose hearts are pure,

⁹ God blesses those who work for peace,

¹⁰ God blesses those who are persecuted for doing right,

for...

the Kingdom of Heaven is theirs.
they will be comforted.

they will inherit the whole earth.

they will be satisfied.

they will be shown mercy.

they will see God.

they will be called the children of God.

the Kingdom of Heaven is theirs.