

Kingdom Citizens –The Sermon on the Mount-Lesson 1

Women of Grace | GraceLife Church

When Jesus saw the crowds, He went up on the mountain; and after He sat down, His disciples came to Him. He opened His mouth and began to teach them, saying,

“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

“Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

“Blessed are the gentle, for they shall inherit the earth.

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

-- Matthew 5:1-6

Day 1—Verse 1

When Jesus saw the crowds, He went up on the mountain; and after He sat down, His disciples came to Him. -- Matthew 5:1

1. Read Matthew 5-7. Are there any questions you have about the Sermon on the Mount? Any parts that confuse you?
2. The Sermon on the Mount is given very early in Jesus' earthly ministry. Do a quick review of Matthew; what took place before it?
3. Does the Sermon on the Mount apply to us today?

4. Who was present at the Sermon on the Mount?

5. What was Jesus' typical response to crowds of people? Find at least one verse to support your answer.

6. What three things did Jesus do in this verse? Why are they significant?

Heart Check:

- Susan Heck says, "The disciples sat at the feet of Jesus to learn. This is what a disciple is: one who attaches themselves to another person for the purpose of growing towards Christlikeness. A disciple is someone who imitates their Master."
 - Are you a disciple of Christ?
 - Do you often sit at His feet to learn?
 - Have you readied yourself to sit at the feet of the Master to learn from the most potent sermon ever delivered? Take time to do so now.

Day 2—Verses 2-3

He opened His mouth and began to teach them, saying, "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. --Matthew 5:2-3

1. Define the word blessed (makarios).
2. What does the world consider a blessed life to look like? Contrast that view with verses 3-6.
3. What does it mean to be poor in spirit?
 - a. How is being poor in spirit a prerequisite for entering the Kingdom?
 - b. How does being poor in spirit help further our sanctification (Christlikeness)?

4. What does humility have to do with being poor in spirit?
5. How is being poor in spirit the opposite of the religious leaders of Jesus' day?
6. What is the Kingdom of heaven?
7. Rewrite this beatitude in your own words.

Heart Check:

- Do you consider yourself blessed, or do you base your blessedness on your circumstances (whether everything is going well)?
- Do you see evidence of being poor in spirit in your life?
- What is the opposite of being poor in spirit? Do you see these qualities in yourself? What must you do to change that?

Day 3—Verse 4

"Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. Matthew 5:4

1. What are those who mourn mourning about?
2. How will those who mourn be comforted?
3. Read Isaiah 6:1-5. What is Isaiah's response to the holiness and glory of God?
4. Read Luke 18:9-14. What two responses to sin are contrasted here. Do you see more of yourself in the Pharisee or in the tax collector?
5. According to 2 Corinthians 7:9-11, how should we respond to our sin?

6. According to these passages, what are some of the effects of unconfessed sin in the life of a believer?
- a. Psalm 32:3-4
 - b. Psalm 66:18
 - c. Proverbs 28:13
 - d. Hebrews 10:26
 - e. Hebrews 12:7-11
7. What is the promise of this verse? Find verses that tell us of how God comforts His people.

Heart Check:

- Is there an on-going mourning over your sin? If not, what could this be indicative of?
- What is the danger of mourning that does not turn into repentance and putting on righteousness?
- What is the danger of mourning without the hope of the gospel?
- When was the last time you called a sin by name and mourned over it?
- Do you mourn over others' sin, or do you scoff, laugh, or judge? What are they headed for and why must we mourn over them?

Day 4—Verse 5

"Blessed are the gentle, for they shall inherit the earth. --Matthew 5:5

1. Define meek (praus).
2. What is the opposite of meekness?
3. What is the difference between meekness as a personality trait and meekness as a character trait? Which is Jesus calling us to?
4. From 1 Peter 3:3-5 what should our adornment be?

5. What do the following verses tell us about gentleness (meekness)? And how does this differ from attitudes in the church today?

a. Colossians 3:12

b. Galatians 5:22-23

c. Galatians 6:1

d. 2 Timothy 2:24-25

e. James 3:13

f. 1 Peter 3:15

6. How do the meek inherit the earth?

Heart Check:

- Gentle people are lowly people. They use their submissive strength to work for the good of others. Is this how you are using your gentle spirit? What are ways you can serve others?

Day 5—Verse 6

*"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied."
--Matthew 5:6*

1. If we are not poor in spirit, mourning over our sin, and seeking to be meek, will we hunger and thirst after righteousness? Why or why not?
2. What does it look like to hunger and thirst for righteousness?
3. How can you increase your hunger and thirst for righteousness?
4. What does it mean to be satisfied?
5. Is this verse teaching that we will hunger and thirst once and then be satisfied forever, or that as we continually hunger and thirst we will be continually satisfied?

6. For the believer, who/what is the object of our hungering and thirsting for righteousness?

a. Why is Christ the only person who can truly satisfy us?

Heart check:

- How hungry and thirsty for righteousness are you?
- What do you hunger and thirst for? What fills your time, pursuits, goals, and thoughts?
- How is discontentment an indicator of a lack of being satisfied with Christ?
- When you evangelize, what is the biggest obstacle to man and why he doesn't hunger and thirst for righteousness?
- Which of these beatitudes challenged you the most? What changes do you need to make in your life to be blessed in that area?

Dig Deeper:

- Summarize the first 4 chapters of the book of Matthew. Why are they important leading up to Jesus' first sermon?
- When Dr. Martyn Lloyd-Jones evaluated the condition of the church in 1959, he said it was "superficial". What do you believe is the condition of the church today and how can a returning to the Sermon on the Mount serve us to be more effective for the sake of the Kingdom?