

## Kingdom Citizens –The Sermon on the Mount-Lesson 2

Women of Grace|GraceLife Church

*“Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.*

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

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

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

*“Blessed are you when people insult you and persecute you, and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of Me. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward in heaven is great; for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you. -- Matthew 5:7-12*

### Day 1—Verse 7

*“Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy. -- Matthew 5:7*

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1. Define merciful (eleēmōn).
2. Give a practical example of how you can show mercy to others.
3. Who will the merciful receive mercy from?

4. What do we learn about mercy from these verses?

a. Lamentations 3:22-23

b. Micah 6:8

c. Matthew 23:23-24

d. Luke 6:36-37

e. 1 Timothy 1:16

f. James 2:13

5. How does being poor in spirit help us to be merciful to others?

6. How has God in Christ shown mercy to you?

**Heart check:**

- Are you merciful, loving, and forgiving of others in your life? If not, why not?
- How can you grow in showing mercy to others?

**Day 2—Verse 8**

*“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God. -- Matthew 5:8*

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1. What does it mean to be pure in heart?
2. When the Bible talks about the heart, what is it referring to?
3. What is the connection between the second beatitude, “Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted,” and the sixth, “Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God”?

4. Read Matthew 23:13-33. How are the Pharisees described? Do you see yourself in any of these descriptions?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
5. What do these verses tell us about being pure in heart?
  - a. Psalm 119:9-10
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  - b. 1 John 3:2-3
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
6. What is the promise of this verse?

**Heart check:**

- Is your heart pure? Your thoughts, words, actions? What do you need to do to actively pursue a pure heart?
- Having a pure heart is not the absence of all sin (this will happen at glorification), but purity is the trajectory of our life. How does this encourage you?
- Is there any on-going, unrepentant sin defiling you?

### Day 3—Verse 9

*“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God. -- Matthew 5:9*

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1. What is a peacemaker?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. What is the connection between “Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth” and “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God”?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. Read James 3:17-18. What does this verse teach us about being a peacemaker?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
4. What important principles about peacemaking do we find in Romans 12:18-21?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
5. How does a failure to apply 1 Cor. 13:4-7 to our interactions with others impede our ability to be peacemakers?

6. Does this mean we don't speak the truth for the sake of peace?

7. Why will peacemakers be called sons of God?

a. How does being a peacemaker reflect the character of God? Use Scripture to support your answer.

Heart Check:

- Are you known for stirring up controversy or are you more known to work and solve conflict?
- Do you tend to live "peace at all costs"? How can this lead to compromise your life?
- So far as it depends on you, be at peace with all men. Is there anyone you need to seek peace with?

## Day 4—Verse 10

*“Blessed are those who have been persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. -- Matthew 5:10*

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1. Read 2 Timothy 3:12 and 1 Peter 4:12-19.
  - a. According to these passages, who will suffer?
  - b. Should we be surprised by suffering?
  - c. Why will we suffer?
  - d. What should we do in our suffering?
2. What is the connection between “those who hunger and thirst for righteousness” and “those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake”?

3. Are we blessed if we are persecuted for defending our faith when we have done it in an obnoxious way, or in a way that lacks love and respect for the other person?
4. Is this verse teaching that we should seek to be persecuted? Why or why not?
5. What does persecution produce in the heart of individual believers and local churches?

#### **Heart Check**

- Do you often pray for the persecuted church or for other believers being persecuted for their faith?
- Persecution can come in varying degrees. Are you facing persecution currently, even if it is on a lesser degree? What is the Lord teaching you?
- Do you seek to carry the burden of those being mistreated or unjustly persecuted? How can you accomplish this?



## Day 5—Verse 11-12

*"Blessed are you when people insult you and persecute you, and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of Me. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward in heaven is great; for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.*

*-- Matthew 5:11-12*

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1. How did Jesus respond when insulted/reviled? (1 Pet. 2:21-23)
  - a. How are we to respond? (1 Peter 3:9)
2. How does this verse prove the falseness of the prosperity gospel?
3. What does it mean to insult/revile? To persecute?
4. What kinds of evil do you see being spoken about Christ in Scripture?

5. Where is our reward for faithfulness to Christ found?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
6. Who persecuted the prophets? How were they persecuted?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
7. Briefly summarize the Beatitudes and how they fit together.

**Heart check:**

- Do you rejoice and be exceedingly glad when you face hardship for your faith? If not, pray and ask God to prepare your heart so that you can be when the time comes.
- Which of the beatitudes challenged you the most? What changes are you making in your life so that you will be blessed in this area?
- How do you respond when you are persecuted for your faith?

**Dig Deeper:**

1. If you followed the summer reading plan, how was Moses persecuted for his association with God?
2. Read Hebrews 11 and thank God for the faithfulness of the saints who have gone before and been an example for us.
3. Research one of the Old Testament prophets. How was he persecuted? How did he respond? Who was persecuting him?