

Leader Conversation Guide - XXVII - Matthew (Part II)

Main Idea

This week, Pastor Curt continued our XXVII series by walking us through the back half of The Beatitudes (Matthew 5:1-12), which digs deeper into the daily life of a Christian. As believers we are called to be merciful, surrender our lives fully to Christ, share the good news of Jesus with others, and accept that we will face persecution for our beliefs. Some of these seem harder than others, but each goes hand-in-hand, and as we pursue Christ daily, He reveals that to us.

The Beatitudes might be the most misunderstood passages in our Bible.

Make It Practical: Blessed are...

- 1. <u>The merciful...</u> for they shall receive mercy. (v. 7)
 - Blessed are you when you begin to treat people the way Jesus treated you.
- 2. <u>The pure in heart...</u> for they shall see God. (v. 8)
 - Blessed are you if you've surrendered your life to Christ, because you see God.
 - "And I will give you a new heart, and I will put a new spirit in you. I will take out your stony, stubborn heart and give you a tender, responsive heart." Ezekiel 36:26
- 3. <u>The peacemakers...</u> for they shall be called sons of God. (v. 9)
 - Blessed are you, peacemaker, when you tell other people about Jesus so they can have peace.
- 4. <u>Those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake...</u> for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. (v. 10)
 - Jesus didn't come to make bad people better or sad people happy. He came to give life to the dead and salvation for sinners.
 - "Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you." Matthew 5:12

Talk About It

- What part of this message impacted you the most?
- Peacemakers are those who share the love of Jesus with others. How can you be a better "peacemaker" and present the truth of Jesus to those around you?
- Matthew 7:22-27 talks about the wise man and the foolish man. Are you building your life on the rock of Jesus Christ, or on the sands of this world?

This is the will of my Father, that everyone who looks on the Son and believes in Him should have eternal life.

Prayer

Father, thank You for your continued love and mercy in our lives. Holy Spirit, teach us to better share the truth of the Word with those around us. You are good and gracious, kind and loving, compassionate and forgiving. Help us to grow in these traits as we seek to be more and more like You. In Jesus' Name. Amen.

Leader Tip

Remind Group Members about the upcoming Blood Drive opportunities at Greenfield and Lititz.