

Sermon-Based Discussion Guide

Date 5/28/23 Bryce Taylor

Watch the sermon at manheimbic.org/sermon.



BIBLE PASSAGE - Matthew 5:1-12

The Sermon on the Mount

5 *Seeing the crowds, he went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him.*

The Beatitudes

2 *And he opened his mouth and taught 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 meek, 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 sons of God.*

10 *"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.*

11 *"Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. **12** Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.*

Other Passages: Matthew 4:23-25, 11:28; Ps. 37:7-13; Deut. 18:15-18; John 15:18-20

Connect:

Get to know each other. Connect, warm up to each other, and take time to fellowship.

Care:

Carry each other's burdens. Share life's challenges and practice Soul Care. Pray together.

Challenge:

Dive into God's Word. Use these discussion questions. Learn from each other's insight.

1. Bryce shared how Jesus' teaching astonished His first audience. These blessed statements did not reflect the cultural values they would have had about who was fortunate in life. How do these nine Blessed groups differ from our contemporary culture's understanding of the fortunate/happy in life?
2. **Digging deeper:** Matthew presents Jesus as a new and better Moses throughout his gospel. As a group, read Hebrews 3:1-19 and discuss how the author of Hebrews continues developing this theme of Jesus as a new and better Moses.
3. As you reflect on these nine groups, called Blessed, which do you find most compelling in this season of your life? Which is most difficult to embrace?
4. We are currently experiencing a time of increased persecution and injustice in our society. How does Jesus' teaching take on new meaning and application for us? How should it shape our response to those who persecute us?
5. As a group, reflect on how God's presence in your life has made a difference while going through difficulty. How has God's presence blessed you even in the midst of hardship?

Clarify:

Does anyone need clarity on something? Are there any big God questions you are wrestling with?

Celebrate:

Celebrate life's successes and God's provision. Worship God's presence. Time to brag about God.

KEY TAKEAWAYS