



# BLESSED ARE \_\_\_\_\_

## DISCUSSION GUIDE

### THE PURE IN HEART

SPEAKER: Andy Sloan

DATE: March 1, 2026

TEXT(S): Matthew 5:8 and 11:28-30; with Gen. 1-3; Rom. 3:20; 1 John 5:3, and Is. 64:6

***HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE:** This resource is designed to help you, or your group, step through a progression of engagement with the Bible passage(s) and the speaker's message. Our goal is to help you better understand and apply B4's teaching.*

### MESSAGE SUMMARY + DISCUSSION PROMPTS

Within the larger vision of the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus declares, "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God." This teaching flows from His "yoke." It's a rabbi's way of life, rooted not in behavior management or shame, but in surrendered apprenticeship. The purity Jesus speaks of is not moral perfectionism or cultural control. It is wholehearted devotion, freed from hiding and blame. While salvation is Christ's finished work, what we do matters because obedience flows from love. A pure heart also clears our distorted vision so we can walk closely with a God who is not distant, but near.

**LEAN IN:** *These are icebreakers and warm-ups, mostly to get the group talking and start the flow of conversation. Choose one and talk it over for 5 minutes.*

1. When you hear the word "pure," what comes to mind?
2. Have you ever felt like faith was more about rule-keeping than relationship?
3. What's the difference between trying to impress God and walking with God?
4. Where do people today tend to hide their struggles?
5. What does "seeing God" mean to you personally?

**LOOK DOWN:** *These are questions about the Bible passage(s) above. Spend about 10 minutes discussing your choice of two or three questions:*

1. How does "pure in heart" (Matthew 5:8) go beyond external behavior?
2. What does Jesus mean by His "yoke" being easy (Matt. 11:28–30)?
3. How does Romans 3:20 reshape our understanding of law-keeping?
4. What connection do you see between purity and vision, between the heart and seeing God?
5. How does 1 John 5:3 redefine obedience?

**LOOK OUT:** *These questions help connect the world of the Bible to today. Spend about 10 minutes discussing your choice of two or three questions:*

1. Where do you see shame used as a tool of control in your culture, or the dominant culture?
2. How might consumer Christianity distort outsiders' views of what it means to follow Jesus?
3. In what ways does your culture emphasize image over integrity, if at all?
4. How can social media encourage hiding or curating instead of honesty?
5. Where do you see people substituting behavior management for heart transformation?

**LOOK IN:** *These questions help you consider how to engage the teaching for yourself. Spend about 15-20 minutes discussing your choice of two or three questions:*

1. Where might shame be tempting you to hide from God or others?
2. Are there times when you've confused rule-keeping with relationship as you walk with Jesus?
3. How is Jesus inviting you into deeper surrender, not just surface change?
4. What would "seeing God" more clearly look like in your daily life?
5. What desires or longings most compete with your desire for God?

**LIVE IT OUT:** *These practical action steps help you apply this message to day-to-day life. Choose one prompt and talk it over for 5 minutes:*

1. Spend 10 minutes each evening this week to do a daily Examen of the Heart. Ask: Where did I hide today? Where did I walk openly with God? Confess without shame, receive grace, and invite the Spirit to purify your motives, not just your actions.
2. Spend five minutes each morning on a Morning Surrender Prayer. Pray in this way: "Jesus, I take Your yoke today. Purify my heart. Fill me with your love. Let me see You in every person and moment." Then intentionally practice one act of obedience "for the sake of others."

You can find B4's [Series Resources here](#).

