

Matthew

Chapter 5a



As you prepare for this week's study, begin by praying and asking God to open your heart and mind to understand the truths He has for you this week. Then read through this week's assignment, **Matthew 5:1-20**. As you read through the first half of the chapter, what are your first impressions? What stands out to you?

Mission 119: Search Matthew and listen to the commentary for Matthew 5-7.

Day 1 - The Sermon

Chapter 5 begins with the Sermon on the Mount, one of the most beloved portions of Jesus' teaching. Here, Jesus painted a picture of the character and lifestyle of those who belong to His kingdom. Teaching with divine authority as the fulfillment of the Law, He uncovered the heart behind God's commandments and called His followers to a life shaped by God's values, purposes, and a deeper righteousness that flows from a transformed heart.

Matthew 5:1-9

- 1) Describe the setting in which Jesus preached. Where was He? Who was with Him? What did He do?

- 2) The "Beatitudes," a Greek word that means blessed, highlighted a virtue or posture describing someone who was in a right relationship with God. According to Jesus, who was blessed and what reward should they expect?

a) (v.3) _____

b) (v.4) _____

c) (v.5) _____

d) (v.6) _____

e) (v.8) _____

f) (v.9) _____

g) (v.10) _____

3) What did Jesus mean by "poor in spirit?" (v.3)

See also:

a) Proverbs 3:34 _____

b) Psalm 51:17 _____

c) Isaiah 57:15 _____

4) Research these examples from Luke's Gospel of people who were "poor in spirit." Who were they and what can you learn from their lives?

a) Luke 1:46-50 _____

b) Luke 18:9-14 _____

c) Luke 23:39-43 _____

5) Jesus promised to comfort those who mourn. (v.4) What insight do you get from these references in Isaiah?

a) Isaiah 49:13 _____

b) Isaiah 57:15, 18-21 _____

c) Isaiah 61:1-3 _____

d) Isaiah 66:13 _____

6) What do you learn about the quality of meekness (v.5) from these New Testament references?

a) Galatians 5:22-23 _____

b) Colossians 3:12 _____

c) 1 Corinthians 4:18-21 _____

7) What insights about meekness (v.5) do you see in the lives of these people?

a) Numbers 12:1-3 _____

b) 1 Samuel 24:8-13 _____

c) Matthew 11:28-30 _____

d) 1 Peter 2:21-23 _____

8) What does "*hunger and thirst for righteousness*" mean? What was the promise given to those who do? (v.6)

See also:

a) Isaiah 55:1 _____

b) Psalm 42:1-2 _____

c) Philippians 3:9 _____

9) Investigate the definition of mercy (v.7) by looking up these Scriptures:

a) Exodus 34:6-7 _____

b) Ephesians 2:4-9 _____

c) Titus 3:4-7 _____

10) What does it mean to be pure in heart? (v.8)

See also:

a) Psalm 24:4 _____

b) Romans 12:2 _____

c) Philippians 4:8 _____

d) James 4:8 _____

11) Describe the difference between a peacemaker and a peacekeeper. (v.9)

12) What does Scripture say about peacemaking?

a) Proverbs 15:1 _____

b) Romans 12:18 _____

c) James 3:18 _____

Day 2 - The Blessing

Matthew 5:10-20

1) Continuing our study of what it means to be blessed, what surprising situation did Jesus say was "blessed?" (v.10-11)

2) What should our response be? Why? (v.12)

3) What instruction or comfort can you draw from these Scriptures?

a) 1 Peter 4:12-16 _____

b) John 15:18-20 _____

Jesus painted a compelling picture of what it means to follow Him. Through familiar images, these metaphors provide a concrete picture of the character, influence, and mission of His followers.

4) What common substance did Jesus use to describe His disciples? What clarification did He add? (v.13)

5) In what other ways did Jesus describe His disciples? What point was He making? (v.14-15)

6) What two things should happen when we “let our light shine”? (v.16)

7) How would you describe “the light” Jesus discussed?

See also:

a) Psalm 119:105 _____

b) John 1:5 _____

c) John 8:12 _____

d) Psalm 27:1 _____

8) Who was to benefit from the "light?" What should they see? (v.16)

9) What did Jesus clarify about His coming as it pertains to the Law? Why? (v.17-18)

10) Research these Scriptures to increase your understanding of God's Word.

a) Psalm 119:89 _____

b) Isaiah 40:8 _____

c) Isaiah 55:10-11 _____

d) Matthew 24:35 _____

11) What caution did Jesus give and what blessing did He promise regarding the Law? (v.19-20)

12) Who will enter the kingdom of heaven? Who will not? (v.19-20)

See also:

a) Matthew 18:3

b) John 3:5

13) **Is there anything in this chapter new to you?

Day 3 - Connecting the Dots...

Throughout Matthew's gospel, Jesus was presented as the new Lawgiver. He was both the fulfillment of the Law and the One who interpreted, completed, and applied the Law in a way that revealed its deeper meaning and purpose.

1) The scene in Matthew 5 described Jesus sitting on the mountainside teaching the people. Read Isaiah 2:2-3. How was this prophecy fulfilled by Jesus?

2) Who first brought the Law to God's people? What was the setting? See Exodus 19:1-6. What similarities do you find to the account of Jesus in Matthew?

3) The writer of Hebrews declared Jesus was greater than Moses. What details did he give to make his point? See Hebrews 3:1-6.

a) Hebrews 3:1-2

b) Hebrews 3:3-4 _____

c) Hebrews 3:5-6 _____

4) The Beatitudes were deeply rooted in the Old Testament. Their themes were found within the wisdom books (Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Job, etc.), especially Psalms. Look up these references and link them to some of the promises of blessing found in Matthew 5:3-10.

a) Psalm 34:18 _____
_____ (Matthew 5:4)

b) Psalm 103:8 _____
_____ (Matthew 5:7)

c) Psalm 37:37 _____
_____ (Matthew 5:9)

d) Psalm 34:21-22 _____
_____ (Matthew 5:10)

5) Explore the counter intuitive idea of what it means to be “blessed” by persecution. What does God want to produce in us?

a) James 1:2-4 _____

b) Acts 5:40-42 _____

c) Romans 5:3-5 _____

Day 4 - Walking the Way of Jesus

Jesus wasn't only the teacher of The Beatitudes - He was their perfect embodiment. Every beatitude was seen in His life and ministry.

1) Research these Scriptures to understand how Jesus modeled being poor in spirit. (v.3)

a) John 5:19; John 6:38 _____

b) Luke 22:42 _____

c) Philippians 2:5-8 _____

2) Over what things did Jesus mourn? (v.4)

a) John 11:33-36 _____

b) Luke 19:41-44 _____

c) Matthew 26:36-38 _____

3) When was Jesus meek? In what situations did He display strength under control? (v.5)

a) Matthew 11:29-30 _____

b) Matthew 21:5 _____

c) Matthew 26:52-53 _____

4) How did Jesus model hungering and thirsting for righteousness? (v.6)

a) John 2:13-17 _____

b) John 4:34 _____

c) John 8:27-29 _____

5) Research these instances in which Jesus extended mercy. (v.7)

a) Mark 1:40-42 _____

b) Mark 2:5 _____

c) Luke 23:32-34 _____

6) How did Jesus exemplify being pure in heart? (v.8)

a) Hebrews 4:15 _____

b) John 8:46 _____

c) John 8:49-50 _____

7) How did Jesus act as a peacemaker? (v.9)

a) Colossians 1:19-20 _____

b) Ephesians 2:12-14 _____

8) Research these instances in which Jesus was persecuted for righteousness' sake. (v.10)

a) Mark 3:5-6 _____

b) John 11:43-53 _____

c) John 19:1-3,18 _____

9) **Jesus manifested all the qualities of The Beatitudes. What about you?

a) **What beatitude is most evident in your life? _____

b) **Which one is least evident? _____

c) **Which one would you most like to develop? _____

d) **How can these best be developed in your life? _____

e) **Which one do you most admire in others? _____

10) **What key point did you learn this week about walking the way of Jesus?

Day 5 - What Do You Think?

"But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well." (Matthew 6:33, NIV)

Today, read chapter 5:1-20 with a seeking posture, and be attentive to where God is forming your heart, reordering your priorities, and inviting you into His kingdom life. As you do, take time to reflect on how God's living Word is at work in your life.

Use the questions below to notice where you sense His invitation, conviction, or encouragement. You do not need to answer every question each week. Instead, choose two or three that stand out and spend time with them. Pay attention to where God is leading you toward deeper trust, understanding, and transformation.

- 1) What part of God's redemptive story became larger, stranger, or more beautiful after studying this chapter?

- 2) **What insights gained from this chapter challenged you to think or act differently?

- 3) Where do you see yourself in this story? Are you the hero, someone in the crowd, or someone in need of grace being revealed?

- 4) **What part of God's kingdom seemed upside down in this passage compared to the kingdom of this world?

- 5) Did any mystery remain unresolved after reading this chapter? Rather than solving it, how might living with that mystery deepen your trust in God?

- 6) **What invitation did Jesus extend to experience transformation in your life?

- 7) If we lived out the truths we've read about in this chapter in our families, workplaces, churches, and neighborhood, what might become more beautiful about our community? What might become uncomfortable?
