

Matthew 5:1-12

¹ Seeing the crowds, he went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him.

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.

Blessed

When we think about what it means to be blessed, we tend to list the things and people we value in our lives like our family, friends, material possessions, etc. We use phrases like “have a blessed day” or “God bless you” but what does it mean to be blessed? Let’s see what Jesus says in His opening words from the Sermon on the Mount, often referred to as the Beatitudes.

1. Read Matthew 5:1-12 and draw a box around **BLESSED ARE**.

Reflect: Look at each place this phrase is marked. Who does Jesus say is blessed?

Reflect: Think about these. Are these who you consider blessed? What does this show you about God’s perspective versus ours?

2. Read the passage again and underline **the result** for each Beatitude. (Hint: pay attention to the word *for* in verses 3-12).

Reflect: What is promised to those who are blessed?

Considering what you’ve seen, take a second to think about the significance of Jesus’ words. Those who are broken, mourning, humble, and persecuted are blessed? How can this be? Those who have these characteristics know the reward they have received or will receive. How does this change your perspective on what it means to be blessed? What promises are yours if you are His?