

Study Guide
Matthew 5:1-16
The Kingdom Has Come!

Big Idea: Spiritual bankruptcy opens the door to satisfaction.
Blessed (*Makarios*)- to be fully satisfied in being connected to God.

1. Read Matthew 5:1-5.

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

²And 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.

Discuss the progression of realizing how lost we are (*poor in spirit*), mourning the loss of our false self, and being humbled (*meek*) by the process. Have you ever felt the desperation of your spiritual condition? What was that like for you?

2. Read Matthew 5:6.

⁶"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

Notice that spiritual bankruptcy is what makes us hungry for being right with God. How have your eyes been opened to how badly you need God? How do you fulfill your hunger for God? (see also Psalm 63:1; John 4:13-14).

3. Read Matthew 5:7-12.

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. ¹²Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

How does being "poor in spirit" offer us the foundation for these beatitudes? Which one of these attributes are your favorite and why?

4. Read Matthew 5:13-16.

¹³"You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people's feet. ¹⁴"You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

Salt should be salty, light should shine forth, and so Christians should reflect Christ. Discuss how being “poor in spirit” can open the door to the satisfaction of being useful in God’s kingdom. What does that look like for us in our world today?

Message Slides

Kingdom Declared logo

>add on mouse click<

“Blessed” (Makarios)- Satisfied in God.

>add on mouse click<

Big Idea: Spiritual bankruptcy opens the door to satisfaction.

A. Empty (v.1-5)

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

²And 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.”

B. Hungry (v.6)

⁶“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.”

C. Satisfied (v.7-12)

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. ¹²Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

Salt and Light (v.13-16)

¹³“You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people's feet.

¹⁴“You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.”

Big Idea: Spiritual bankruptcy opens the door to satisfaction.