

May 27, 2018

Teaching Notes

Series: Spirit Life - Week 1

Matt 5:1-12 (NLT)

¹ One day as he saw the crowds gathering, Jesus went up on the mountainside and sat down. His disciples gathered around him,² and he began to teach them.

³ “God blesses those who are poor and realize their need for him, for the Kingdom of Heaven is theirs.

John 1:12-13 (NLT) ¹² But to all who believed him and accepted him, he gave the right to become children of God. ¹³ They are reborn—not with a physical birth resulting from human passion or plan, but a birth that comes from God.

We not only realize our need for God, but we recognize our need for each other as well.

⁴ God blesses those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

God offers comfort _____ of why we mourn.

⁵ God blesses those who are humble, for they will inherit the whole earth.

A humble person is *satisfied* with what God provides.

⁶ God blesses those who hunger and thirst for justice, for they will be satisfied.

Helping victims *find their voice*.

“Satisfaction” on who’s terms: _____ or _____?

⁷ God blesses those who are merciful, for they will be shown mercy.

Would we want others to be patient with us if we were perceived in a negative light?

⁸ God blesses those whose hearts are pure, for they will see God.

To _____ or _____ am I drawn?

⁹ God blesses those who work for peace, for they will be called the children of God.

Working for peace is _____.

¹⁰ God blesses those who are persecuted for doing right, for the Kingdom of Heaven is theirs.

Jesus is saying, “others may not like you or want you... but I do!”

¹¹ “God blesses you when people mock you and persecute you and lie about you and say all sorts of evil things against you because you are my followers.¹² Be happy about it! Be very glad! For a great reward awaits you in heaven. And remember, the ancient prophets were persecuted in the same way.

There is *no comparison* between what God offers as a reward and what we may have to put up with as a follower of Jesus.

Closing Song: Death Was Arrested, by North Point