



friendship
community church

Blessed Sermon

Luke 6:20-23

Week of June 2-8, 2019

#faithful – we have talking about this for weeks. Review as needed.

#blessed

“And he lifted up his eyes on his disciples, and said: “Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. “Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you shall be satisfied. “Blessed are you who weep now, for you shall laugh. “Blessed are you when people hate you and when they exclude you and revile you and spurn your name as evil, on account of the Son of Man! Rejoice in that day, and leap for joy, for behold, your reward is great in heaven; for so their fathers did to the prophets. Luke 6:20-23

Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God.

Ask, How do we normally define wealth?

Jesus helps us redefine wealth. The real hidden truth of wealth - heirs of the kingdom of God.

Jesus helps us see invisible life. We are never separated from God again. We are now priests and have direct access to God.

Hebrews 10:14 - God sees Jesus' perfection in us.

As we mature in Christ, when we have lack, we don't look to our wealth for provision but we look to Him.

Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you shall be satisfied.

Ask, how would you describe contentment?

Jesus helps us taste a future of contentment. He shows us of things to come, where we will be satisfied at all times in Him.

One of the beauties of fasting is we can hear God more clearly. Distractions are minimized.

Blessed are you who weep now, for you shall laugh.

How would describe joy? How might that differ from happiness in your life? They are not mutually exclusive however.

Jesus helps us hear a future of unbridled joy.

Jesus heals and turns brokenness into wholeness and restoration.

How have you seen God do this in your life or the lives of others?

Isn't it interesting that when things are going well, many times we live now waiting for the worst to happen. The “this is too good to be true” syndrome hits us and we just wait and live in fear/anticipation of the “worst about to happen.”

How might that rob us of the joy that God wants us to experience in Him?

Blessed are you when people hate you and when they exclude you and revile you and spurn your name as evil.

Jesus helps us feel accepted . . . On account of the Son of Man!

We are always accepted when we are reviled because of our love for God.

He never leaves or forsakes us because we are His. It may not feel solid on earth, but remember we are now fitted for heaven. Trying to “fit on earth” is like chasing the wind. It is exhausting and not what we are purposed for so it is wasted time and energy. And did I say exhausting yet?

Rejoice when this happens because your reward is in heaven.

How might you remind yourself, that when you are misunderstood for Christ’s sake, your reward is not here and now but ultimately in heaven?

Isn’t it just like us to want that reward now?

How can you lead a #bless-ed life?

- Rely less on earthly wealth (focus on what and Who you have in Christ)
- Rely less on earthly appetites (ask yourself, what is becoming an obsession?)
- Rely less on earthly circumstances (God is faithful in all seasons and all things.)
- Rely less on earthly opinions (It is nice to be liked. It is faithful to be faithful to Him.)
- Rely less on earthly comparisons (Christ is the example. Emulate Him.)

Take a couple of minutes to discuss:

#Bless-ed

You choose to be blessed based upon Christ and Who He is. You are learning to rely on His faithfulness and His promises.

#Blessed

Conventional wisdom says, You wait to see what happens to determine if you are blessed or not. If a situation turns out the way you needed it to then we #blessed.

In actuality, we are blessed way beyond our imagination because of what Christ had done and is doing in saving us from ourselves.

Ask, What are some practical ways you can choose to be #faithful today to experience #bless-ed and #blessed as God has intended?

Take time to share prayer requests and pray together.