

**The Beatitudes
Matthew 5**

Verse	Meanings	Application
<p style="text-align: center;">v. 3 Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven</p>	<p>Blessed = Devine Joy and Perfect Happiness Poor = Destitute, I bring nothing. Is = Now, Experienced in this life Kingdom of Heaven = the inner state of Righteousness, Peace, and Joy in the Holy Spirit</p>	<p>We must: Recognize that we have no merit in our own actions and can do noting without the Holy Spirit. Cry out to him, “Abba, Father.” Have a constant conscious awareness of His presence. Pray for a right attitude, not a certain outcome. Trust God, even if things to not appear to be going the way I would like.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">v. 4 Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted</p>	<p>Mourn = Sorrow for my own sin and all mankind</p>	<p>Godly sorrow brings repentance that leads to salvation, with no regrets. Mourning for others causes us to be comforted by moving us to action with respect to lost souls and oppression. We receive comfort when we acknowledge our sin. Pray that God teaches me to mourn and to be passionate.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">v. 5 Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth</p>	<p>Meek = humble. Concerned for God’s glory and for God’s people Inherit =Experience Earth = Spiritual land, the Kingdom of Heaven</p>	<p>Pray that God teaches me to be humble. Do nothing out of selfish ambition or conceit. In humility, consider others better than yourself Be a servant of others; putting their needs first. Ask God how he wants me to use everything I have to serve others.</p>

Verse	Meanings	Application
<p>v.6 Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.</p>	<p>Righteousness = <i>Experiential Righteousness</i>: the daily experience of truth, discernment, justice, knowing and doing the right thing, wisdom, skill. (opposite to injustice)</p>	<p>Cry out, “Abba, Father” Turn your ear to wisdom, search for understanding, insight, and knowledge of God Study scripture.</p>
<p>v.7 Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.</p>	<p>Mercy = Unmerited, unearned favor</p>	<p>Be merciful because we were shown mercy! Those who are <i>not</i> merciful will not receive mercy in this life. Cry out to the Lord, repenting and asking forgiveness. Forgive each other’s debts and injury. Don’t hold grudges. Let yourself be defrauded. Clothe yourself with compassion. Pay the debt yourself. Do not demand that others meet our expectations. Cut them some slack. Become an advocate for someone in need. Keep in step with the Spirit. Help those caught in sin. Carry each others burdens, even if he brought it on himself.</p>
<p>v.8 Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.</p>	<p>Pure in heart = Unadulterated. A mind filled with the true word of God. See God = Understand God</p>	<p>Directly study God’s word with prayer Recognize that truth is that which agrees with God’s word, <i>all</i> else are lies. The standard of truth is, “The Bible Says...” Let God’s word act as a filter on everything. Watch out for “I think ...” or “I was taught ...” Hold everything suspect until proven to be in accord with word of God.</p>

Verse	Meanings	Application
<p style="text-align: center;">v. 9 Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God.</p>	<p>Peace = An experience of the Kingdom of Heaven. Rest, Order, Complement, Harmony with and from God. Jesus</p> <p>Peacemakers = Those who do the applications →</p> <p>Sons = Ones who take after their father.</p> <p>Sons of God = Disciples whose actions reflect God's characteristics</p>	<p>Leave it all to God. Do not worry or be anxious. Trust Him.</p> <p>Live rightly (righteously).</p> <p>Proclaim the gospel in every action and every speech.</p> <p>Be reconciled to God.</p> <p>Become an active peacemaker in society. Do not repay evil for evil, Take no revenge. Overcome evil with good.</p> <p>Seek to live harmoniously.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">v. 10 Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness, for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven</p>	<p>Persecution=</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Persecution by the world • Persecution by other believers <p>For Righteousness= for trying to live a godly life, NOT for doing wrong</p>	<p>Ask, "Is it worth it?" Does the experience of the Kingdom of God outweigh the cost?</p> <p>Expect persecution.</p> <p>Don't be surprised.</p> <p>Plan your response ahead of time.</p> <p>Make sure the persecution is not for being unrighteous.</p> <p>Be sensitive to God's Spirit.</p> <p>Praise God for the opportunity to exhibit God's characteristics to a sinful world and to share in his persecution.</p> <p>Pray for those who persecute you.</p> <p>Be perfect as your heavenly father is perfect.</p> <p>Be gracious to them.</p> <p>Bless them.</p>