



The Inside Out Values of God

Scripture: Matthew 5:1-6

Sermon Points:

1. God favors those who have nothing but SPIRITUAL POVERTY (v1-3).
2. God fills those who have been emptied of SPIRITUAL COMPLACENCY.

Beatitudes

#1 Matthew 5:3 *"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."*

#2 Matthew 5:4 *"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted."*

#3 Matthew 5:5 *"Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth."*

#4 Matthew 5:6 *"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled."*

A "blessed" person is one who walks in God's ways, submits to God's rule, and displays God's character in their life.

Group Opener:

The message started with the story of the Royal Swedish Navy's Vasa Warship. Who remembers this and can share why it was an important illustration?

Discussion Questions:

Read Matthew 5:1-6

1. God blesses "the poor in spirit" in Matthew 5:3. What does it mean to be poor in spirit?
2. "Those who mourn" (v4) are connected to "the poor in spirit" (v3). How are these related?
3. A "meek" person (v5) is a God-controlled person. What does God promise to those under His rule? How is this counter-cultural?
4. Read this quote from Pastor Jon Courson,
"I am personally convinced that the reason many people are not filled is b/c they have not been emptied. They are still full of themselves. Pride must go before you find yourself hungering & thirsting for righteousness."
Discuss this quote, how are you doing with this?
5. Will you read Matthew 5-7 aloud each Monday morning before you start your week?

THE BEATITUDES
Matthew 5:1-12, NIV, 1984

Now when he saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him,

2 and he began to teach them, saying:

3 “Blessed are the poor in spirit,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

4 Blessed are those who mourn,
for they will be comforted.

5 Blessed are the meek,
for they will inherit the earth.

6 Blessed are those who hunger
and thirst for righteousness,
for they will be filled.

7 Blessed are the merciful,
for they will be shown mercy.

8 Blessed are the pure in heart,
for they will see God.

9 Blessed are the peacemakers,
for they will be called sons of God.

10 Blessed are those who are persecuted
because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

11 “Blessed are you when people insult you,
persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil
against you because of me.

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