

Better Together: Changing Lives

Text: Matthew 5:1-12

Purpose: Learn from Jesus' teaching on the beatitudes to help us to grow in areas that are difficult to grow in.

Opening Question: If you could change one thing about your house what would it be?

Read and Discuss: Matthew 5:1-12

1. *Blessed are the poor in spirit. How can pride be a stumbling block to our growth? What is it like for you that we don't have the power to make the changes we need to in our life?*
2. *Blessed are those who mourn (spiritual poverty). How can confession to God help us repair the places that we have damaged our relationship with Him?*
3. *Blessed are those who are meek. What situations do you find it difficult to be gentle with people? How can you still be firm and truth, but gentle?*
4. *Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness. How do other people (especially small group) help you to pursue righteousness?*
5. *Blessed are the merciful. Who in your life do you need to offer forgiveness to?*
6. *Blessed are the pure in heart. What's challenging about examining your weaknesses? How can God's grace help us to reflect on areas that we need to grow in?*
7. *Blessed are the peacemakers. What part of your life do you need to invite God's presence in to restore peace?*
8. *Blessed are those who are persecuted. How can persecution help us grow in our faith?*