

## The Beatitudes<sup>1</sup>

CCEN Children’s Classes, Spring 2019

Matthew 5:3-12	<p><sup>3</sup> Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.</p> <p><sup>4</sup> Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.</p> <p><sup>5</sup> Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.</p> <p><sup>6</sup> Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.</p> <p><sup>7</sup> Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.</p> <p><sup>8</sup> Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.</p> <p><sup>9</sup> Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.</p> <p><sup>10</sup> Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.</p> <p><sup>11</sup> Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. <sup>12</sup> Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.</p>
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### Memorization Schedule

January 6, January 13	<sup>3</sup> Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
January 20, January 27	<sup>4</sup> Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.
February 3, February 10	<sup>5</sup> Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.
February 17, February 24	<sup>6</sup> Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.
March 3, March 24	<sup>7</sup> Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.
March 31, April 7	<sup>8</sup> Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.
April 14, April 28	<sup>9</sup> Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.
May 5, May 12	<sup>10</sup> Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
May 19, May 26	<sup>11</sup> Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. <sup>12</sup> Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

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<sup>1</sup> The reason these are referred to as the “beatitudes” is because the word that begins each of these phrases (“blessed” in our English version) is *beatus* in Latin. That word simply means “blessed” or “happy.” But what we quickly find out upon reading them is that this is a different kind of happiness than we are used to seeing. This is the first teaching of Jesus that shows us that his kingdom on this earth is the opposite of what we think it should be. It is the poor, meek, hungry, and merciful who will be truly happy, which would have been (and still is) utter folly to the unbelieving world. The rest of the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5-7) presses that teaching over and over again. So, rather than a fleeting version of happiness, this section of Jesus’s teaching is about true blessing (akin to [Psalm 1](#))—the state of life that belongs to those in relationship with God. How important it is to teach this to our kids from the youngest ages! Planting and growing in them the ethics of God’s kingdom.