



**Week of February 17, 2019**

**Luke 6:17-26**

<sup>17</sup> He came down with them and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon.

<sup>18</sup> They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured.

<sup>19</sup> And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them.

<sup>20</sup> Then he looked up at his disciples and said: "Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God.

<sup>21</sup> "Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled. "Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh.

<sup>22</sup> "Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man.

<sup>23</sup> Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets.

<sup>24</sup> "But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation.

<sup>25</sup> "Woe to you who are full now, for you will be hungry. "Woe to you who are laughing now, for you will mourn and weep.

<sup>26</sup> "Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets.

Note:

This is the beginning of what is known as the Sermon on the Plain, as opposed to the Sermon on the Mount in the Gospel of Matthew.



### Group Leader

Remember: you don't need to use all of the questions. Go with what works. Give people a chance to think before answering, but if a question falls flat, move on. Let the discussion go where it needs to go, as long as it remains centered around the lesson. Give the participants page 1. Use this page for yourself.

### Gathering questions:

A. When in your life did you have the most power/influence? When did you have the least? How did you handle both circumstances?

B. When in your life did you experience a situation where it seemed that "rules" you had been used to were changed on you? (Any way of interpreting the word "rules".) What was that like?

### Bible Study Questions:

1. What do you think the word "blessed" means?

2. What do you think is the significance of the healing scene prior to Jesus delivering his teaching? How does the healing relate to the teaching?

3. In verse 23, what do you think it means to have a reward that is "great in heaven"? Can there be varying levels of reward in heaven?

4. Which of the "blesseds" in verses 20-22 is the most comforting to you at the moment? Why?

5. Which of the "woes" in verses 24-26 is the most discomfoting to you at the moment? Why?

6. Can you think of a "prophetic voice" in modern times who was rejected? What about current times? Were/are you a supporter or opponent of that person?

7. Think about the various disadvantaged groups in our society. Which ones do you have the most empathy for? The least empathy? How might you see the world from their point of view?

Closing prayer: particularly invite prayers for ways in which you can see the world from the point of view of the marginalized