

Journey Church Mount of the Sermon | Matthew 5 August 17, 2025

#blessed

- No one is <u>beyond</u> God's blessing.

 Matthew 5:3-12
- Blessed = Being <u>close</u> to God

 Matthew 4:17; 5:13-14; 6:10, Luke 17:21

The Heart of the Matter

Matthew 5:17-42, Jeremiah 31:31-33

- Sin doesn't start with our <u>hands</u>. It starts in our <u>hearts</u>.
- True <u>righteousness</u> occurs at the <u>heart</u> level.

A heart for God will cultivate a love for others.

Matthew 5:43-48, 1 John 4:7-12

• Real love = to will the good of another person

Small Group Questions:

- 1. When you hear the word "blessed," what's the first thing that comes to your mind? Does it sound more like "lucky," "happy," or something else entirely?
- 2. Jesus says sin begins in our hearts before it ever shows up in our actions. Can you think of an example where a small attitude or thought turned into something bigger?
- 3. Jesus says to love even our enemies. What does it practically mean to "will the good" of someone who has wronged you? Where do you find it hardest to love others this way?

Be Intentional:

If blessing is being close to God, what is one step you can take this week to live more aware of His presence—at the heart level?

Pray:

Spend time praying together. What are some ways in which you can pray for each other? Take some time in the coming week to explore ways in which you can encourage one another. Remember to share with your group what you are learning about those opportunities and reflect on God's Word as you pray for each other.