



Small Group Bible Study—St. Paul's: Onalaska

WK 5: Jesus Gives Divine Blessedness

Based on sermon from Feb 17th, 2019

Luke 6:17-26

WARM UP

1. If you could name one thing that you could change in your life, what would it be? Do you think that would make you happier?

INTO THE TEXT

1. What did people think would make them happy in the first few verses of our lesson? So why did Jesus bother helping them?
2. Look at Jesus' examples of blessings and woes. How does he redefine what true blessings are in each case? How do we sometimes run after the wrong thing in search of happiness?
 - a. Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God (vs. 20); Woe to you who are rich, for you have already received your comfort. (vs. 24)
 - b. Blessed are you who hunger now, for you will be satisfied (vs. 21); Woe to you who are well fed now, for you will go hungry. (vs. 25)
 - c. Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh (vs. 21); Woe to you who laugh now, for you will mourn and weep (vs. 25)

- d. Blessed are you when people hate you, when they exclude you and insult you and reject your name as evil, because of the Son of Man (vs. 22); Woe to you when everyone speaks well of you, for that is how their ancestors treated the false prophets. (vs. 26)

DIGGING DEEPER

3. Read 1 Peter 4:12-14. The definition of being blessed here is similar to what Jesus says in Luke 6.
 - a. How do we train our body and emotions to "rejoice" in the face of suffering?
 - b. What are some ways that you or other people you know struggle with this?

NOW WHAT?

4. What can you say to comfort someone who is suffering in any of the ways discussed earlier?
5. What scripture verses would you use for others (or yourself) when going through difficult times? Why are those useful?
 - a. Romans 8:28
 - b. Isaiah 41:10
 - c. 2 Corinthians 5:17
 - d. 2 Corinthians 4:16-18
 - e. Others?