



Answer Key

Lesson 3: The Mount of Beatitudes - The Mountain of Teaching

Matthew 5–7

Theme: Kingdom living starts in the heart.

Introduction

Jesus moved beyond behavior and addressed the **heart**.

True righteousness begins on the **inside** long before it is displayed on the **outside**.

Lean In: A changed **heart** produces a changed **life**.

Tonight we climb to three truths from the Mountain of Teaching.

I. The Character of the Kingdom

God is more concerned with **character** than reputation.

Character is who you are when no one else is **watching**.

A. The Humble Are Blessed

"Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven." – Matthew 5:3

Being poor in spirit means recognizing our spiritual **depravity** before God.

Pride says, "I can handle this **myself**."

Humility says, "Lord, without You I can do **nothing**."

One of the greatest barriers to revival is **pride**.

God resists the proud but gives **grace** to the humble.

Application

Where has **pride** taken root in your life?

B. The Merciful Are Blessed

"Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy." – Matthew 5:7

Mercy is **compassion** in action.

Mercy forgives when **revenge** seems justified.

Mercy gives **grace** when judgment feels more appropriate.

Every person in this room is living on **mercy**.

Because we have received mercy, we must **extend** mercy to others.

C. The Pure Are Blessed

"Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God." — Matthew 5:8

Jesus did not say pure **actions**.

He said pure **heart**.

God sees our:

- **Motives**
- **Attitudes**
- **Desires**
- **Heart**

Kingdom living begins in the **heart**.

II. The Conduct of Believers

Character eventually becomes **conduct**.

A. Believers Are Salt

"Ye are the salt of the earth." — Matthew 5:13

Salt:

- Preserved **food**
- Slowed **corruption**
- Improved **flavor**

Christians are called to preserve **truth** and resist moral decay.

Never underestimate the power of faithful **influence**.

Application

Are people closer to Christ because of your **influence**?

B. Believers Are Light

"Ye are the light of the world." — Matthew 5:14

Light:

- Exposes **darkness**

- Provides **direction**
- Offers **hope**

Jesus did not say we should become light.

He said we **are** light.

We are to be **beacons**, not bumps in the road.

C. Believers Are Different

The world says, "Promote **yourself**."

Jesus says, "Humble **yourself**."

The world says, "Get **even**."

Jesus says, "Forgive."

The world says, "Live for **yourself**."

Jesus says, "Deny **yourself**."

Following Jesus means swimming **against** the current.

III. The Core of the Heart

Jesus repeatedly returned to one central issue:

The **heart**.

A. God Sees Motives

Murder begins with **anger**.

Adultery begins with **lust**.

God sees the **motive** behind every action.

B. God Desires Sincerity

God desires **authenticity**.

God wants living faith, not **plastic** religion.

Are you performing Christianity or practicing Christianity?

C. God Calls for Transformation

The message of Jesus is not self-improvement.

It is **transformation**.

Rules can modify behavior **temporarily**.

Only Christ can transform the **heart** permanently.

Jesus changes:

- **Hearts**
- **Desires**
- **Priorities**
- **People**

Conclusion

The difference between the two builders was not hearing His words.

The difference was **obedience**.

The Sermon on the Mount was never intended to be **admired**.

It was intended to be **obeyed**.

Final Questions

1. Am I developing Christlike **character**?
2. Am I living differently enough that others can see **Christ** in me?
3. Am I allowing God to transform my **heart** from within?

Key Truth

Kingdom living starts in the **heart**.