



Part 4 - Qualities of the Truly Blessed
November 27, 2016

ICEBREAKER: How would you describe what it means to be blessed in a sentence?

MAIN POINTS:

**A stagnant life says no,
A blessed life flows**

EXPLORATION:

1. Read Matthew 5:1-12. How many times does Jesus use the word “Blessed” in this passage? What in general do you think He means by that word?

(Context Clues- The Greek word for “blessed” in this passage is μακάριος and it means to be happy, to be joyful.)

2. Discuss what it means to be “poor in spirit”.

(Context Clues- See also Matt 6:19-21 and Phil 4:19. The idea is “having nothing, but possessing everything”.)

3. Discuss what it means to “mourn”. When have you really mourned and grieved in your life? Were you ever truly comforted?

(Context Clues- The word comforted literally means “to come alongside and help.”)

4. Discuss what it means to be “meek” or “gentle”. Do you feel like you are effective at harnessing your strength and authority?

(Context Clues- the word means power under control)

APPLICATION:

1. Discuss what it means to “Hunger and thirst for righteousness”. Discuss how rare this is in our culture today. What really satisfies? God’s things or the world’s things?

2. Discuss what it means to be merciful? Do you think you treat others the way that you want to be treated?

(Context Clues- notice that this is the only of the beatitudes that is reciprocal. In other words you get back what you are.)

3. Discuss what it means to be “pure in heart”. Read Psalms 66:18 and Isaiah 59:2. How does sin block our communication and ability to see God and see God move in our lives?

4. Discuss what it means to be a peacemaker? Discuss how badly our society needs peacemakers with all of the division that is going on?

5. Discuss how persecution is present in our culture today? Is it like it was in the time that Jesus spoke the Sermon on the Mount? Why is it important that we care more about what God thinks than what the World thinks?

6. Pray for God’s blessing to flow into and out of River Point Community Church and our families. Continue to pray that God would truly bless our efforts for Operation Christmas Child and Angel Tree.