



## Connect Discussion Guide

06.27.21 Message | Chuck Sackett | Matthew 5:5

### Key Scriptures:

*“Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.”*

- Matthew 5:5

*“During those many days the king of Egypt died, and the people of Israel groaned because of their slavery and cried out for help. Their cry for rescue from slavery came up to God. And God heard their groaning, and God remembered his covenant with Abraham, with Isaac, and with Jacob. God saw the people of Israel—and God knew.”*

- Exodus 2:23-25

*“Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor men who practice homosexuality, nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. And such were some of you. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.”*

- 1 Corinthians 6:9–11

*“From now on, therefore, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we once regarded Christ according to the flesh, we regard him thus no longer. Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.”*

- 2 Corinthians 5:16–17

*“I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.”*

- Galatians 2:20

### Message Highlights:

- Jesus offers an invitation for the Kingdom of Heaven to collide with our world, but the true blessing will come through the cost of surrender.
- In Jesus, no one is beyond blessing or acceptance.
- Jesus turns the concept of “Kingdom” upside down. What the world would throw away, Jesus treasures.

- “The man who is truly meek is the one who is truly amazed that God and man can think of him as well as they do and treat him as well as they do.” (John Stott citing Lloyd-Jones)

**Conversation Starter:**

In a world obsessed with what the eyes can see we often want the transaction of God’s blessing more than the transformation; does this reality resonate with you? Discuss with your group how you see this play out in your circles, and why this transactional mentality is detrimental to our faith.

**Discuss the Message:**

1. Look up the definition of “meek” in conjunction with Chuck’s explanation of the virtue in his sermon. Though our culture and society seem to say otherwise, each one of us can and should lean into meekness. Why do you think this characteristic is so unnatural for many of us to practice?
2. Meditate on Matthew 5:5, and specifically the latter half, “...for they shall inherit the earth.” Do you live out of the disposition that, as a citizen of the Kingdom of God, your inheritance is certain and final? How can this gift speak new life into your days?
3. In the Kingdom of God, things are never as they seem; Jesus offers us an “upside-down Kingdom”! Discuss with your group the beautiful juxtaposition of the bounty that is inherited by those who choose to live into the freedom that meekness in God leads to.
4. Though leaning into meekness sometimes feels like a hindrance, the message of the beatitudes is that God sees us as we are! The grace God offers us changes everything; if you’ve tasted and seen the goodness of God’s grace, how are you taking the next step to offer that grace to people in your life?
5. 1 Corinthians 6:9-10 explains that the unrighteous will not in fact inherit the Kingdom of God, yet verse 11 says, “And such were some of you. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.” What does verse 11 show us about the character of God? Take some moments to rejoice in our gracious God, and talk about how this truth could free you to lean into one of the beatitudes we’ve studied thus far this summer.

**Pray:**

*Father in Heaven, we praise you for your mighty strength! You remember your promises and you never fail to keep them. Thank you, Jesus, for freeing us from the bondage of our sin and selfishness, which we clung to so tightly in the past. Now we cling to you, Lord. Because of your grace and patience with us, the old has passed away and the new has come.*

*Help us to live in meekness. We ask that by your Holy Spirit, you will remind us each day that you desire so much more than a transactional exchange with us. You want a relationship that leads to transformation. We want that too. Grant us the grace to live in patience and trust in you as we rid our lives of pretense. Help us to offer others the same grace and tenderness that you have shown us. Amen.*