CONNECTIONS

Sermonnotes - February 5, 2017

Keyverse

Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. Matthew 5:5

Surrendered & Blessed

Meekness starts with our surrender to God, then it becomes apparent in the way we treat others. Pastor Dan

1. Think of someone you're having a hard time with right now. How are you tempted to respond to them? As a Christian, how do you think you *should* respond to them?

2. Jesus said that *He* is gentle (meek) and humble in heart (Matthew 11:29; 21:5). Read the verses below and note how Jesus responded to people who gave Him a hard time. Would you say His responses were meek? In what way—or not?
   - Matthew 12:9-14—
   - Luke 7:36-47—
   - Matthew 16:21-23—
   - Luke 23:33-34—

3. Pastor Colin Smith said, "There is a definite order to the Beatitudes, and each one flows from the others that went before." With that in mind, how does this third Beatitude "flow from" the first two? How does being poor in spirit and mourning over our sin help us trust God and respond gently to people who offend us?

4. What does it mean that the meek will inherit the earth? How might people who first heard Jesus say this have understood it? How do you think Jesus intends for us to understand it today? Check out Psalm 37:5-11; 1 Peter 3:8-12; Matthew 19:28-30; Revelation 21:1-3, 7.

5. Of the three blessings Jesus promised in the first three Beatitudes—the Kingdom of Heaven, God's comfort, and inheriting the earth—which one appeals to you most? Why?

6. Think again about the person you're having a hard time with right now. What will it look like for you to trust in God and respond gently to them?