

Matthew 5:1-12--Now when he saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him, and he began to teach them saying: "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

The 8 Secrets of a Happy Life

Secret #1: Accurately _____ yourself.

Vs. 3--Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Happy are those who realize they are spiritually destitute without God.

Secret #2: Admit your _____.

Vs. 4--Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

Happy are those who are saddened by sin and are quick to confess it.

Secret #3: _____ others.

Vs. 5--Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

Happy are those who humbly put God and others first and self third.

Secret #4: Do the _____ thing.

Vs. 6--Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

Happy are those who have a deep desire to do the right (God) thing.

Secret #5: _____.

Vs. 7--Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.

Happy are those who care enough to walk in another's shoes.

Secret #6: Question your own _____.

Vs. 8--Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

Happy are those who constantly question their own motives.

Secret #7: Promote _____.

Vs. 9--Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God.

Happy are those who build people and bridge relationships.

Secret #8: Live with _____.

Vs. 10--Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Happy are those who know what they believe and boldly live it.

Look at the Results

#1. You get the _____.

Vs. 3--...for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

#2. You get _____.

Vs. 4--...for they will be comforted.

#3. You _____.

Vs. 5--...for they will inherit the earth.

#4. You will be _____.

Vs. 6--...for they will be filled.

#5. You get _____.

Vs. 7--...for they will be shown mercy.

#6. You get to _____.

Vs. 8--...for they will see God.

#7. You will be _____.

Vs. 9--...for they will be called sons of God.

#8. You will be _____.

Vs. 10--...for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Small Group Discussion Questions:

1. Talk for a few minutes about the differences between God's Kingdom and the kingdom of this world. In what ways do people of God talk, think and behave differently? Discuss and describe.
2. Review the points and verses from this lesson. What personal application can you make from this teaching?
3. The 8 Beatitudes are sequential and describe what a Christian is to be like. Walk through all 8 Beatitudes and in your own words describe what each one is saying about true Christianity. Which one is the hardest to understand? Which is the hardest for you to live out in your life?
4. Take some time right now to pray for the needs of those in your small group.