

Week 8 Group Discussion Questions

1. Some values (Status, Stuff, Image, etc.) of our culture don't align with Jesus' teaching. Why don't these value typically create a good life?
2. Jesus describes a contrary way of living in The Sermon On the Mount. Read Matthew 5:1-12, where Jesus shares the Beatitudes, which means "blessed". How are you blessed according to what Jesus teaches?

One day as he saw the crowds gathering, Jesus went up on the mountainside and sat down. His disciples gathered around him, and he began to teach them.

"God blesses those who are poor and realize their need for him, for the Kingdom of Heaven is theirs. God blesses those who mourn, for they will be comforted. God blesses those who are humble, for they will inherit the whole earth. God blesses those who hunger and thirst for justice, for they will be satisfied. God blesses those who are merciful, for they will be shown mercy. God blesses those whose hearts are pure, for they will see God. God blesses those who work for peace, for they will be called the children of God. God blesses those who are persecuted for doing right, for the Kingdom of Heaven is theirs.

3. If the "good life" looks nothing like our culture portrays it to be, how do we seek the blessings Jesus speaks of in a culture that encourages us to try harder, build yourself up, and try and be someone you are not?
4. Why is it so important to portray Jesus' description of being blessed?
5. What is one practical way you can live out the beatitudes in your everyday life this week?