

MESSAGE NOTES

January 31, 2010

Radical: The Beatitudes, Pt. 3
(Sermon On The Mount)
Matthew 5:8-12
Pastor Jeff Nelsen

■ Jesus invites us into a _____ life with Him.

“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.”
“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God.”
Matthew 5:8-9

THE PURE IN HEART (Matthew 5:8)

- Not ceremonial or _____, but inward devotion. Matthew 15:7-19
- Pure = _____, undivided, “will just _____ thing.” Luke 10:41; Ezekiel 11:19
- Will _____ God—both _____ & _____. John 1:18; 14:9; 1 Cor 13:12; 1 John 3:2-3

THE PEACEMAKERS (Matthew 5:9)

- Not passive peace-_____ or appeasers who _____ conflict.
- Peace = _____, well-being, in _____ relationship. Eph 4:3
- Called _____ God = “character _____.” John 14:27; 2 Cor 5:19-20; Col 1:20

“Blessed are the 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...” Matthew 5:10-11

THE PERSECUTED (Matthew 5:10-12)

- Not the _____, self-righteous or _____. Acts 4:19; 5:27-42; 1 Peter 4:15
- Persecution = _____ kinds of _____ because of Jesus. John 15:18-20
- _____ for kingdom & _____ reward _____ theirs. 1 Peter 4:12-16
- Is there _____ of these in _____ life? John 15:5,8; 2 Corinthians 13:5

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Reflecting on the Beatitudes

Do I see something of these character traits developing in my life?

Am I poor in spirit? (Matthew 5:3)

Do I live with an awareness of my profound spiritual bankruptcy?
More & more, am I trading self-sufficiency for complete dependency on God?

Do I mourn over sin? (Matthew 5:4)

Do I joke about, wink at, or rationalize away my own sin or the sin of others?
Have I experienced godly sorrow? Do I ever have a broken & contrite heart before God?

Am I meek? (Matthew 5:5)

Do I have a humble yet healthy view of myself before God?
Am I more leadable, correctable & willing to be ruled by God?

Do I hunger & thirst for righteousness? (Matthew 5:6)

Is there any noticeable change in what I desire? Do I have an appetite for God's Word?
Do I genuinely want to know & obey the LORD & be more Christlike?

Am I merciful? (Matthew 5:7)

When I detect a judgmental spirit rising up in me, am I learning to show mercy to others?
Do I live with a sense that God wants me to pass on the mercy He has shown me?

Am I pure in heart? (Matthew 5:8)

Am I comfortable with any mixed motives or impure desires in my self?
Am I honestly & regularly wanting one thing—to know Him & His way at any cost?

Am I a peacemaker? (Matthew 5:9)

Have I made peace with God & come to know the peace of God?
Am I humbly & actively repairing and seeking to reconcile the relationships in my life?

Am I persecuted because of Jesus? (Matthew 5:10-12)

Has anyone insulted, shunned or looked down on me because I follow Jesus?
Have I suffered any loss or humiliation because there's a noticeable difference in my life?

A Prayer

LORD, in light of these character traits You've given in the Beatitudes,
I recognize that on my own, I'm not righteous enough to ever
have a relationship with You—but I am spiritually bankrupt.

Please forgive me for going my own way, hurting others & refusing Your authority.
Thanks for dying on the cross in my place & rising again so You can be my righteousness.

Please give me a new heart, new desires & teach me how to live this new life with You.
I'm ready to learn to abide in You each day, so You can produce Your character in me.