

# JESUS AT THE CENTER OF THE KINGDOM

## ATTITUDES AND ACTIONS

June 23, 2024

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### DIGGING DEEPER

Use this guide by yourself or with friends as you seek to know God.  
To find a group, visit [brookwoodchurch.org/groups](http://brookwoodchurch.org/groups).

Unless otherwise noted, words and phrases in this study guide are  
based on language from the New International Version (NIV).

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*"Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them." John 13:17 (NIV)*

**Insight:** The Beatitudes are Christ's own specification of what every Christian ought to be. (from *A Deeper Look at the Sermon on the Mount* by John Stott).

#### Read Matthew 5:1-12.

1. Jesus uses the word *blessed* nine times in this passage. What does *blessed* mean to you? How do God's blessings impact your life?
2. Of the different types of people Jesus references, which one do you identify with the most? How does knowing that you are blessed in that way make you feel?
3. Which type of people do you identify with least? How can you become more like them?
4. When have you felt *poor in spirit*? How did you move past that moment?
5. Being meek in today's society has a negative connotation, but meekness shows humility and patience. Read Psalm 37:11. How does this shift your image of a meek person, and how can you bring that into your life?
6. What does it mean to *thirst for righteousness*?
7. We go through seasons where our hunger and thirst for righteousness fluctuate. What season are you in? How can your past seasons help you today?
8. How has God's mercifulness to you helped you to have mercy on others?
9. Describe a time when someone showed you mercy. In what ways did that change you?
10. *Pure in heart* can mean an undivided heart, only focused on God. How's your heart? What can you do to keep your heart focused on God?
11. How have the actions of a peacemaker enabled you to deal with a difficult situation?
12. When were you a peacemaker? How did God's peace help you in that moment?
13. What's your response when people say negative or evil things about you? How can the promise in verse 11 help you when that happens?
14. Jesus finishes this passage by saying *Rejoice and be glad*. How do you rejoice in the promise that you will be with Jesus in heaven for eternity?
15. How are you encouraged or challenged as you read the Beatitudes?
16. Pause and ask God what He wants to say to you. Keep a journal of what He says to you so you can look back and see His faithfulness.