

Living the Beatitudes

The Beatitudes	Message	Making a Difference
“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.” (Matthew 5:3)	This Beatitude tells us about our attitude toward the things we have; we should not be overly attached to possessions. Our confidence should be in God. We are called to share whatever we have with others.	
“Blessed are they who mourn, for they will be comforted.” (Matthew 5:4)	We are to be signs of hope despite the sadness, evil, and injustice we see in the world. As Jesus’ disciples, we are to comfort those who suffer injustice and loss.	
“Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the land.” (Matthew 5:5)	The meek are the humble—that is, those who realize that their talents and abilities come from God. We are to use our God-given talents and abilities to do what is good, showing love for God and others.	
“Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be satisfied.” (Matthew 5:6)	The greatest desire of those who hunger and thirst for righteousness is for God’s power and presence to be at work in the world. As Jesus’ disciples we try to do God’s will. We put our trust in God and carry out Christ’s work of justice.	
“Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.” (Matthew 5:7)	Those who show love and forgive others will themselves receive love and forgiveness in God’s Kingdom. We are to show compassion to all people.	
“Blessed are the clean of heart, for they will see God.” (Matthew 5:8)	The clean of heart are those who are open to God and God’s law. They are sincere in everything they do. We are to be faithful Christians and find Christ in others.	
“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.” (Matthew 5:9)	God wants all people to love one another and to have the peace that comes from loving him and trusting in his will. We are called to be reconcilers in our homes, communities, and world. We are to bring people together.	
“Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.” (Matthew 5:10)	Prophets were often persecuted when they brought people God’s message. We are to love out our Christian faith even when others do not understand our beliefs.	