

**Victoria Fellowship Church**  
**International & Interdenominational**  
**Bible Study Worksheet – March 27, 2022**

**Theme: The Beatitudes    Topic: Beatitudes: The Summary**

**Main Texts: Matthew 5:1-12**

**Key verse: Proverbs 8:32 “Now therefore, listen to me, my children, for blessed are those who keep my ways” (NKJV)**

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**INTRODUCTION:** Matthew 5 opens with “*And seeing the multitudes, He went up on a mountain, and when He was seated His disciples came to Him. Then He opened His mouth and taught them, saying*” And the point was made that the Beatitudes were spoken to disciples of Jesus Christ, and not to the crowd. So, as we wrap the quarter series on the Beatitudes, let’s hear those words again which our Lord specifically spoke to His disciples: “*Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be filled. Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for My sake. Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.*” (Matthew 5:3-12 NKJV)

**1. (a) How do these Beatitudes compare with the teachings and practice of the Pharisees and the Old Covenant Temple worship? (b) When you reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge you? Please explain your answer. (c) In what ways have the studies on the Beatitudes changed or is changing your view of the Christian life?**

Recall that the Beatitudes represent Jesus Christ’s description of the spiritual traits of those who are in right standing with God (members of God’s kingdom). You will notice also the three-fold pattern to each of the declarations: Firstly, each Beatitude begins with a declaration of the fate of the person, ‘*Blessed*’, followed with a description of the ones considered as blessed and then the nature of the blessing. It is like what the Psalmist wrote in Psalm 31:19 about God laying up His goodness for a certain kind of persons.

**2. (a) What do you make of this order of things in the Beatitudes? (b) When you look at the order of things in the Beatitudes – the state of the person, the character of the person before the blessing, how does that compare with the popular attitude among believers to pursue God’s blessing? (c) How important is this order of things to you? And how should that affect how we live and relate with the world around us?**

Prior to this, the Pharisees had taught that righteousness was external, a matter of obeying rules and regulations. Like the Pharisee in Luke 18:10-12, they measured their righteousness and that of others by their praying, giving, fasting, etc. But the *Beatitudes* painted a different picture. In them, Jesus described kingdom life that flowed from within. Also, the Beatitudes are enveloped by ‘for theirs is the kingdom of God.’ (Matthew 5:3, 10). What this means is that all the other Beatitudes in between are in the context of the same kingdom of God.

**3. (a) Which of the Beatitudes mentioned in Matthew 5:3-12 do you feel is most relevant to you or to the Church today? Please explain. (b) In the light of what Jesus said in Matthew 23:23b, “...*You should have practiced the latter, without neglecting the former.*” How would your answer in (a) above change? Please explain (c) In the light of Proverbs 8:32, let participants share one application they will make because of lessons from this study.**

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**Prayer:** *Our Father in heaven, thank You for the lessons from the Beatitudes. Help me to be careful to apply these lessons in my life daily so that my life will bring You great glory. In Christ’s Name. Amen.*