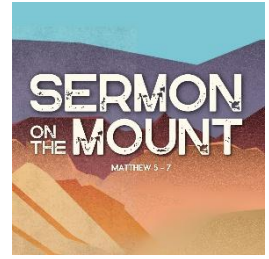


The Sermon on the Mount: Introduction

Intro Week: September 8th & 9th



Icebreaker Questions:

1. What is a new experience or something new you have learned this summer?
2. If you had a completely free Saturday with zero responsibilities, how would you spend it?
3. What made you decide to join this group, and what are you most looking forward to experiencing during our time together?
4. What is one piece of wisdom or advice someone has given you that has stuck with you over the years?
5. What is a skill, hobby, or project you've been spending time on lately outside of work or family responsibilities?

Sermon on the Mount Questions:

1. The video notes that the Sermon on the Mount contains some of the most famous phrases in human history (e.g., "Love your neighbor," "Turn the other cheek," "Salt of the earth"). Which teaching or image from the Sermon on the Mount has had the greatest personal impact on you and why?
2. Jesus gives teachings that can feel radically challenging (like loving our enemies) or puzzling (like cutting off a hand if it causes sin). Why do you think Jesus used such drastic and uncompromising language? What naturally holds us back from taking these commands seriously?
3. Rather than starting His kingdom movement with the political or religious elite, Jesus took His message to the poor, sick, taxed, and powerless in the hills of Galilee. What does this reveal to us about the heart of God and the nature of His kingdom?
4. The video highlights Jesus's opening words: "Blessed are the poor in spirit..." How does Jesus's definition of "blessing" contrast with how our modern culture—and sometimes even the church—defines a "blessed" life?
5. What is one specific area of your life (e.g., relationships, finances, inner thought life, response to conflict) where you are praying God transforms you through this upcoming series?