



Calvary
Baptist Church

By Richard Blair

Home Worship Guide

The Beatitudes: Pt. 2

This week we will continue to walk through the Beatitudes of Jesus accounted by Matthew. Jesus begins his Sermon on the Mount with these teachings and there is wonderful significance to why He did so. Let's continue to dig in!

WELCOME

Why should we do a family devotional?

“Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.” - Deuteronomy 6:4-8

As long as there have been a “people of God,” the command given to them has always been that they would be instructing their children in the way of the Lord. Scripture expects parents to be the primary disciplers of their children.

But teaching children is more than simply giving rules. It involves showing them HOW to obey the Lord by doing it yourself! These family devotionals are meant to equip you as an individual to grow in your understanding of the Lord and His Word, as well as providing parents with the resources and opportunities to demonstrate for their children what it looks like to pursue God.

How to use this devotional:

This is simply a resource for you to use however works best for your family! Each day there is a selected Scripture reading, devotional, discussion questions, a prayer prompt, and a song to sing together. You may consider splitting parts and having one family member read the Scripture while another reads the devotional and another leads the prayer. Feel free to read additional Scripture as you call to mind passages that relate to what was read. Sing more hymns and songs with your family than the one provided if you feel led to. Use this guide in whatever way helps you and your family draw nearer to the Lord together.

PAST WORSHIP GUIDES

Are you just now learning about these worship guides? Or maybe you were traveling and missed a week. Don't worry! These worship guides are written in a way so that they can be used for years to come.

All of our past worship guides are available on our website. Feel free to scroll and find the one that works for you and your family. The dates simply help you know when they were written, it doesn't mean you only have to read them the week that they were published!

Find those worship guides here:



<https://www.calvaryleavenworth.com/homeworship>

MONDAY

Blessed Are the Merciful

Read: Matt. 5:7; Exodus 34:5-6; Luke 6:36

Have you ever been wronged by someone? Maybe you were called something unkind, or someone did something that hurt your feelings. In that moment, it is clear you did not deserve to be treated that way. The question then arises: how do you choose to respond? The easiest response might be to get even, to call them a name back, or to react with anger. This would seem to make things “fair” according to modern logic. And yet, there is another choice—one that is more difficult, but far more powerful: mercy. In today’s passage, we encounter this godly attribute that runs throughout both the Old and New Testaments of Scripture. To be merciful is to show compassion and kindness, even when it is undeserved. It is to forgive others in love. Mercy is not something that comes naturally to our sinful flesh. Rather, it is evidence of a heart that has been transformed by God. When Jesus says that the merciful are blessed, He is referring to those who freely offer mercy because they recognize the limitless mercy God has first shown them in Christ Jesus.

When God gave Moses the law on Mount Sinai, He descended in the clouds and passed before Moses. In that moment, God made a clear and powerful proclamation of His character. The Lord revealed Himself as perfectly merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and overflowing with steadfast love. This declaration helps us understand that the attribute of mercy is unchanging and central to God’s nature, long before Jesus spoke about it in the Beatitudes. Reflecting on this profound truth, we see that God’s plan of redemption has always been rooted in His mercy, forgiveness, and unwavering love—even in the face of human sin. Everything God does is for His glory, and His unending mercy and grace are reasons for praise and gratitude.

Praise God!

Discussion Questions:

How is mercy different from fairness? How has God shown mercy to you?

Pray

Lord, remind us of your mercy first shown to us in Christ Jesus, that we may freely offer mercy to others in love and compassion.

Sing

His Mercy Is More

HIS MERCY IS MORE

What love could remember no wrongs we have done
Omniscient, all knowing, He counts not their sum
Thrown into a sea without bottom or shore
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more

What patience would wait as we constantly roam
What Father, so tender, is calling us home
He welcomes the weakest, the vilest, the poor
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more

Chorus:

Praise the Lord, His mercy is more
Stronger than darkness, new every morn
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more

What riches of kindness He lavished on us
His blood was the payment, His life was the cost
We stood 'neath a debt we could never afford
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more



TUESDAY

Blessed Are the Pure in Heart

Read: Matt. 5:8; Ps. 24:1-6, Heb. 9:13-14

Consider the purpose of a water filter—it is used to provide us with clean drinking water. The very act of using a filter implies that the water is contaminated and needs purification. The filter’s job is to remove what is unclean, making the water suitable for consumption. In our passage today, Jesus speaks about being “pure in heart.” What exactly does He mean by this? Jesus is not suggesting that His audience should attempt to clean their physical heart—such a task would be impossible! Instead, He is referring to the spiritual heart, which is understood as the inmost part of a person: the source of thoughts, passions, desires, affections, and intentions. Scripture makes it clear that because of sin, none are naturally pure in heart. This reality would have been daunting for Jesus’ listeners, who may have wondered, “Jesus—this sounds impossible!” According to the law, achieving a pure heart is indeed impossible without an intermediary who can purify us from sin. Thankfully, Christ Jesus Himself shed His blood to atone for our sin. Through Him, we are washed clean and purified, receiving new hearts. With these purified hearts, we are now called to walk in obedience to Him. This includes taking responsibility to actively pursue purity, just as Paul encourages the Philippians to focus on what is pure (Philippians 4:8).

Let the Beatitudes be of complete assurance to you who trust in Christ alone for salvation. Those who mourn and grieve over sin, who are meek, who seek righteousness, who are merciful, who are pure in heart – these behaviors progressively pattern the lives of those whom God has called to himself – and not one of them will He cast out. As the psalmist proclaims, it is these who will receive blessing from the Lord and will see Him one day, face to face. Therefore, do not be discouraged by the presence of remaining sin in your life. You have already been justified before God through Christ, and you are now being continually sanctified by the indwelling Holy Spirit. This ongoing work is evidence of God’s faithfulness and the certainty of your ultimate blessing in Him. Seek the things that are above.

Discussion Question

Does Jesus here imply that we must first make our hearts pure to be blessed? (Hint, why not?)
How then are we to pursue being pure in heart?

Pray

Knowing the steadfast love of God and our dependency upon Him, let us pray like David to create within us a clean heart, and renew a right spirit within.

Sing

Holy, Holy, Holy

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee.
Holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! all the saints adore thee,
Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea.
Cherubim and seraphim, falling down before thee,
Who was and is and evermore shall be.

Holy, Holy, Holy! though the darkness hide thee,
Though the eye of sinful man thy glory may not see,
Only thou art holy; there is none beside thee,
Perfect in pow'r, in love, and purity.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
All thy works shall praise thy name, in earth, and sky, and sea;
Holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity.



WEDNESDAY

Blessed Are the Peacemakers

Read: Matthew 5:9; James 3:13-18

There is a natural tendency in all of us to hear of peace and think that it is a human endeavor—centered on our efforts to negotiate, compromise, pacify, or even avoid difficult circumstances and situations. In many instances, we can achieve “peace” through these means, as the absence of conflict is often equated with peace. However, this worldly, man-centered approach to peace is vastly different from the peace Jesus describes in today’s passage. In keeping with each preceding verse, Jesus directs His audience to realize that genuine peacemaking flows from the heart of someone reconciled to God.

Peacemakers understand they do not create peace independently; rather, they are privileged to extend the peace that Christ has already accomplished by reconciling sinners to God. Therefore, peacemaking is not a means to earn sonship, but evidence of the sonship already received. It reflects the family likeness into which Christians have been adopted, demonstrating that God is a God of peace.

Peacemaking is both vertical, involving our relationship with God, and horizontal, impacting our relationships with others. It is the reconciliation we experience with God that enables and empowers us to extend peace to those around us. Without first being reconciled to God, our attempts at peacemaking with others lack true foundation and strength. James offers practical wisdom for peacemaking, reminding us that biblical peace never compromises truth. To pursue peace faithfully requires intentional action.

Simply avoiding conflict may bring temporary comfort, but it often fails to achieve genuine reconciliation. Christians are called to engage in difficult situations to restore relationships, guided by God's love and His truth. Even with these efforts, we may not always be met with peace from others. Be encouraged, our calling is to obedience rather than to specific outcomes.

Discussion Question:

Is peacemaking active or passive? Does peacemaking imply conflict avoidance at all cost?

Pray

Help us to see where we are to pursue peace. Give us courage and strength to speak the truth in love.

Sing

*All Creatures of Our God
and King*

ALL CREATURES OF OUR GOD AND KING

All creatures of our God and King,
Lift up your voice and with us sing
Alleluia, alleluia!
Thou burning sun with golden beam,
Thou silver moon with softer gleam,
O praise him, O praise him,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Thou rushing winds that art so strong,
Ye clouds that sail in Heav'n along,
O praise him, alleluia!
Thou rising morn, in praise rejoice,
Ye lights of evening, find a voice.
O praise him, O praise him,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

And all ye saints of tender heart,
Forgiving others, take your part,
O sing ye, alleluia!
Ye who long pain and sorrow bear,
Praise God and on him cast your care:
O praise him, O praise him,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Let all things their creator bless,
And worship him in humbleness,
O praise him, alleluia!
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,
And praise the Spirit, Three in One:
O praise him, O praise him,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.



THURSDAY

Blessed Are Those Who Are Persecuted for Righteousness Sake

**Read: Matt. 5:10-12; 1 Pe. 4:12-19;
Rom. 5:3-5**

Suffering is a reality for everyone living in a fallen world. We all encounter pain and hardship because of sin, and these daily struggles remind us of the brokenness that surrounds us. However, not all suffering is the same. Scripture teaches that Christians will experience a particular kind of suffering—persecution—because of their faith and obedience to God. Jesus' words are meant to encourage believers who endure such persecution, assuring them that their hardship is not in vain. Although the world may view persecution as a loss or defeat, Jesus reveals that it is a mark of those who belong to God's kingdom. Being persecuted for righteousness is evidence of unity with Christ, as believers share in His sufferings, His death, and His victory over sin. In this way, suffering for righteousness is not a sign of abandonment but of blessing. Those who face persecution for the sake of righteousness can be assured that their salvation is secure. The reward promised to them is nothing less than God Himself, to be enjoyed for all eternity. Importantly, this reward is not something earned by personal merit or achievement but is freely given by God's grace to those who belong to Him.

Jesus instructs us to rejoice even when we face persecution for the sake of righteousness. While this command may seem difficult to practice, we are reminded that God is sovereign over every circumstance we encounter. Our hope is not rooted in our own strength or endurance, but in the finished work of Christ. Jesus Himself endured persecution and was crucified for our sake! We can find encouragement in knowing that, just as God empowered the prophets of old to remain steadfast through their trials, He also promises to preserve us. As believers, we have been sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, who assures us of God's enduring faithfulness. In times of hardship or opposition, we are called to praise God for His unwavering commitment to us, trusting that He will sustain us through every trial.

Discussion Questions:

How are we to rejoice in suffering for righteousness, as Jesus calls us to?

Pray

Lord, give us courage to live for righteousness, even if it costs us.

Sing

Take My Life and Let It Be

TAKE MY LIFE AND LET IT BE

Take my life and let it be
consecrated, Lord, to thee.
Take my moments and my days;
let them flow in endless praise,
let them flow in endless praise.

Take my hands and let them move
at the impulse of thy love.
Take my feet and let them be
swift and beautiful for thee,
swift and beautiful for thee.

Take my voice and let me sing
always, only, for my King.
Take my lips and let them be
filled with messages from thee,
filled with messages from thee.

Take my silver and my gold;
not a mite would I withhold.
Take my intellect and use
every power as thou shalt choose,
every power as thou shalt choose.

Take my will and make it thine;
it shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart it is thine own;
it shall be thy royal throne,
it shall be thy royal throne.

Take my love; my Lord, I pour
at thy feet its treasure store.
Take myself, and I will be
ever, only, all for thee,
ever, only, all for thee.



FRIDAY

Reflecting on the Beatitudes

Read: Matthew 5:1-12

Over the past two weeks, we have explored the profound truths found in just a few verses of Matthew's Gospel. Our study began by stepping back to see the overarching story of God's plan of redemption revealed throughout Scripture. Matthew carefully chronicled Jesus' life and teachings, presenting Christ as the ultimate fulfillment of the law and the initiator of the new covenant. Each day, we witnessed Jesus progressively unveil the character traits of those whom God has graciously welcomed into His kingdom. The Beatitudes, rather than serving as a checklist for earning blessings or a ladder to ascend into God's kingdom, are meant to describe the nature of regeneration and evidence of ongoing sanctification in the life of the believer. The Beatitudes illustrate what it looks like for God's grace to be at work within us.

By God's sovereign grace, we are first awakened to our spiritual need. This recognition leads to mourning and grief over sin, which brings about genuine repentance and humility before God. The Holy Spirit then nurtures a hunger and thirst for righteousness, prompting outward growth that bears fruit in mercy, purity of heart, and peacemaking. In this journey, God enables us to persevere and reassures us through the completed work of Christ. Praise God for His sovereign grace so beautifully displayed in our lives!

If we reduce the Beatitudes to a checklist of moral behaviors, we run the risk of creating a "Jesus plus" theology. This perspective can cause us to seek affirmation through our outward actions, using our performance as the basis for our identity. However, the true foundation of our assurance is found in Christ alone. Jesus is the only one who perfectly fulfilled the law and lived out these teachings without fault. Every promise of blessing is secured through the finished work of Christ, allowing us to rest in complete assurance of our salvation and identity in Him.

Discussion Questions:

In practice, how do we hunger and thirst for righteousness? Is it at all encouraging to know Christ's promise for those who do?

Pray

We praise You for this gift and for making Your Word alive in our hearts.

Sing

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

WHEN I SURVEY THE WONDROUS CROSS

When I survey the wondrous cross
on which the Prince of glory died,
my richest gain I count but loss,
and pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast
save in the death of Christ, my God!
All the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them through his blood.

See, from his head, his hands, his feet,
sorrow and love flow mingled down.
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine,
that were a present far too small.
Love so amazing, so divine,
demands my soul, my life, my all.



Oh come,
let us
worship
and bow down;

let us
kneel
before the
Lord,
our Maker!

—♥—
Psalm 95:6

CALVARY

BAPTIST CHURCH

Worship

8:30 & 11:00am

Sunday School

10:00am

 CalvaryLeavenworth.com

 913-682-3790

“Go home to your friends and tell them how much the Lord has done for you, and how he has had mercy on you.”

Mark 5:19

