

SG Discussion Questions

for Personal Study and Small Groups 2/3/13

The Blessed Life Matthew 5.1-12

Purpose of SG: to foster in its members the biblical values of worship (God), discipleship (church), and outreach (lost).

2013 Annual Focus: Drawing Near to the Good and Mighty King.

Announcements: (1) Church Plant childcare 2/17? (2) Entermissions baskets (3) Anyone want to attend the SGL Basic Training on 2/9/13?

SG Discussion Questions:

Focus: to call us to embrace the virtues of the kingdom, and live a life that God loves to bless.

Read 1-12. What can you learn about Jesus from this passage? What does it teach you about the life He offers you?

Read 3-6. These four blessings raise the question, "Will I take the low place?", borrowing language from Luke 14.7-11. What makes these places hard for us to choose? (i.e. being poor in spirit, mourning, meekness, hungering and thirsting for righteousness) Which of these do you need to discuss to get a better understanding of what it means? Which of these is the one you need to most earnestly pursue? and how can you do that?

Read 7-9. These three blessings raise the question, "Will I be a celebrity or a servant?" Which of these do you need to discuss to get a better understanding of what it means? What pushes you towards the narcissism and selfishness represented by the idea of celebrity? Which of these is the one you need to most earnestly pursue? and how can you do that?

Read 10-12. This blessing (or two) raises the question, "Am I willing to suffer for this blessed life?" What gives you pause in answering that question? How does the persecution of Christians around the world scare you? Strengthen you? What opposition might you face here in our culture to living a life of following Christ?

What is the one verse from the beatitudes that you need to memorize and pray through more in the days and weeks ahead? What steps of obedience will that verse ask of you?