



The Sermon on the Mount

Matthew 5-7

Christian Life Center, A Foursquare Church | 951-689-6785

OVERVIEW OF THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT | MATTHEW 5-7

Matthew 7:24-27 *Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock.*

The Sermon on the Mount is Jesus' teaching primarily to His disciples... Matthew 5:1-2
Now when Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him, and he began to teach them.

Discipleship deals with deeper Truth, responsibility, and eternal reward.

1. **The Beatitudes** — 5:3-12 *Blessed are...*
2. **Salt and light** — 5:13-16 *...In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.*
3. **The fulfillment of the Law** — 5:17-20 *Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them...*
4. **Dealing with hatred** — 5:21-26 *You have heard that it was said to the people long ago, "You shall not murder, and anyone who murders will be subject to judgment." But I tell you that anyone who is angry with a brother or sister will be subject to judgment...*
5. **Dealing with adultery** — 5:27-30 *You have heard that it was said, "You shall not commit adultery." But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart...*
6. **Divorce** — 5:31-32 *It has been said, "Anyone who divorces his wife must give her a certificate of divorce." But I tell you...*
7. **Oaths** — 5:33-37 *Again, you have heard that it was said to the people long ago, 'Do not break your oath,...*

8. **An eye for an eye** — 5:38-42 *You have heard that it was said, “Eye for eye, and tooth for tooth.” But I tell you,...*
9. **Love your enemies** — 5:43-48 *You have heard that it was said, “Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.” But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you,... Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.*
10. **Giving to the needy** — 6:1-4 *Be careful not to practice your righteousness in front of others to be seen by them. If you do, you will have no reward from your Father in heaven...*
11. **Prayer** — 6:5-15 *...This, then, is how you should pray: our Father in Heaven...*
12. **Fasting** — 6:16-18 *When you fast,...*
13. **You cannot serve two masters** — 6:19-24 *...No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money.*
14. **Do not worry about provision** — 6:25-34 *...But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well...*
15. **Judging others** — 7:1-6 *...For in the same way you judge others, you will be judged, and with the measure you use, it will be measured to you...*
16. **Ask, seek, knock** — 7:7-12 *...how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask him!...*
17. **The narrow and wide gates** — 7:13-14 *Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it.*
18. **True and false prophets** — 7:15– 20 *Thus, by their fruit you will recognize them.*
19. **True and false disciples** — 7:21-23 *Not everyone who says to me, “Lord, Lord,” will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven.*
20. **The wise and foolish builders** — 7:24-28 *Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice...*

MAIN THEMES IN THE SERMON

1. Discipleship deals with deeper Truth, responsibility and eternal reward (5:3-12).
2. We have the responsibility to influence our society for the Kingdom (5:13-16). Salt (lifestyle permeates and flavors) and light (our words and actions as declarative).
3. Christ fulfills the Law and gives us the ability to overcome the root and motivation of sin through the power of the Spirit (5:17-48).
4. Jesus gave us a pattern for an effective life of prayer and fasting (6:1-18). The five parts of the disciple's prayer pattern: praise, priorities, provision, pardon and power.
5. As disciples we can have an eternal perspective on temporal things (6:19-34).
6. Understanding the "Root Fruit" principle (7:1-23)..
7. Building our life on obedience to Christ's words (7:24-29).

THE BEATITUDES Matthew 5:3-12

The Beatitudes are Jesus' statements beginning with "**Blessed are...**" in Matthew 5, at the beginning of the Sermon on the Mount. The Greek word translated "**blessed**" is (*makarios*), meaning **blessed, fortunate, or deeply favored**. It means more than simply feeling happy, it is enjoying **God's favor and approval**, even when circumstances are difficult.



Jesus is describing the spiritual condition and character of a disciple of Jesus, one who's life is shaped by Kingdom values and convictions. It is the disciple who is living under Christ's rule and experiencing His favor **regardless of circumstances**.

These characteristics are impossible to perform in real life apart from a personal empowerment by the Holy Spirit.

1. **Blessed are the poor (ptochos) in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.**
 - One who has nothing and is completely empty, realizing that they can never achieve salvation on their own. Therefore they put their complete faith and trust in Jesus Christ.

- In Luke 15:21 the prodigal son became poor in spirit and realized his sin. In Luke 18:9-14 the tax collector was justified before God because of his humility.
2. **Blessed are they who mourn** (pentheo), **for they will be comforted.**
 - To mourn was to strike/beat the chest as an outward sign of inward grief.
 - In Nehemiah 1 we see the sorrow of Nehemiah over the result of the sins and condition of Israel.
 - 2 Corinthians 7:10-11 states that true repentance results from sorrow changes the individual's thoughts and action.
 3. **Blessed are the meek** (prautes), **for they will inherit the earth.**
 - The word refers to a strong and powerful horse or an ox that has been trained and disciplined. This is a person controlled by God in thought, word, will, emotion, and action.
 - Moses was the meekest man above all men (Numbers 12:3).
 - Psalm 25:9 *The humble He guides in justice, and the humble He teaches His way.*
 4. **Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness** (dikaioisune), **for they will be filled** (satisfied with His abundant provision).
 - Righteousness is a lifestyle that is in conformity to the will of God. It focuses on virtue, being morally right, and ethical, as opposed to lawlessness.
 - John 6: 35 *I am the bread of life. He who comes to Me shall never hunger, and he who believes in Me shall never thirst.* (Isaiah 55:1-2)
 5. **Blessed are the merciful** (eleemon), **for they shall be shown mercy.**
 - Mercy is compassion that involves the heart, mind, and resulting action. Biblical mercy does more than feel another person's pain; it responds to genuine needs. Jesus was moved with compassion toward the crowds, the sick, and the suffering, and His compassion resulted in action. (Matthew 9:36; 14:14; 15:32; 20:34)
 - Luke 6:36 *Therefore be merciful, just as your Father also is merciful.*
 6. **Blessed are the pure** (katharos) **in heart, for they will see God.**
 - Something cleansed by shaking it as in a sieve. It is free from impurities and other contaminants (Psalm 24:3-4).
 - Mark 7:20-23 states that every unclean thing comes from the heart, the origin of our emotions and will. However, Psalm 119:9 gives us the way to purify our heart and stay pure, ...*by living according to your word.*
 7. **Blessed are the peacemakers** (eirenopoios), **for they will be called sons of God.**
 - Because we have received peace with God in our own heart, we can be peace makers, not just peacekeepers.
 - The three forms of peace: peace *with* God (Romans 5:1), the peace *of* God (Philippians 4:7), the *God* of Peace (Romans 16:10).

8. **Blessed are those who are persecuted (dioko) because of righteousness, for theirs is the Kingdom of God.**

- The blessing for those who are being persecuted not for doing wrong but for doing right without malice. (1 Peter 2:19-20)
- The stoning of Stephen in Acts 7:54-60.

MAKING IT REAL

1. As I look honestly at my life, do I see the character of Jesus described in the Beatitudes, or am I becoming comfortable with areas that contradict His teaching?
2. Which Beatitude do I most desire the Holy Spirit to develop more deeply in me?
3. Am I only hearing and agreeing with Jesus' words, or am I actually putting them into practice... even when obedience is difficult or costly?
4. If the storms of life reveal the strength of my foundation, what would my present reactions, priorities, relationships, and choices reveal about what I am really building my life upon?
5. Where do I see the God's character growing in my life through the work of the Holy Spirit?
6. Where is God giving me an opportunity to be salt and light and bring Kingdom influence to someone around me?
7. What is one practical act of obedience I can take today in response to what Jesus taught?