

The Sermon on the Mount:
The Beatitudes
Matthew 5:1-12

Lesson Three

Observation: Please read **Matthew 5:9-12**

Introduction: The word "Beatitudes" is taken from the Latin word "beatus" which means "blessed" or "happy". Thus, the Beatitudes are blessings from Jesus' Sermon on the Mount. Each one represents a blessing or divine favor bestowed upon God's people who possess a certain character quality.

Questions for Consideration:

- Why do you think that Jesus stated that peacemakers would be "called" members of God's family? (v. 9)
- How does persecution endured for the sake of righteousness qualify a Christian as "blessed"? (v. 10)
- Is persecution experienced for the sake of the Cross just backlash from the enemy because he has been exposed? (vs. 11-12)

Personal Exploration:

- Why is it challenging at times to rejoice and be exceedingly glad when we are experiencing persecution and defamation of character?

Inspiration:

Please take the time to reflect and journal the times of refreshing that you have experienced from

the Lord during the most challenging days of your journey.