

## THE BEATITUDES: PART II

Matthew 5.7-16

Most of us love to receive mercy from people. Few of us love to give mercy to people.

The Word of God promises us that if we truly live our lives for Christ, we will suffer persecution. We live in an age where righteousness is not welcomed, and is even becoming more and more under attack. The fact that there are two kingdoms at war is very real: the kingdom of darkness and the kingdom of Heaven.

Romans 12.14-21 // 2 Timothy 3.12-14

## SALT AND LIGHT TO THE DYING AND DARK

The cost of discipleship is great, but the cost of non-discipleship is far greater.

-Dallas Willard

"The great thing is to prevent his [the Christian] doing anything. As long as he does not convert it into action, it does not matter how much he thinks about this new repentance. Let the little brute wallow in it. Let him, if he has any bent that way, write a book about it; that is often an excellent way of sterilizing the seeds which the Enemy (God) plants in a human soul. Let him do anything but act. No amount of piety in his imagination and affections will harm us if we can keep it out of his will...

"A moderated religion is as good for us as no religion at all—and more amusing."

 the demon Screwtape's advice to his junior demon, from CS Lewis' book The Screwtape Letters

Discipleship is not an offer that man makes to Christ. When Christ calls a man, he bids him come and die.

-Dietrich Bonhoeffer

He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep in order to get what he cannot lose.

-Jim Elliot, 1950's Missionary and Martyr



# NOTES:

### **Recommended Resources**

#### The Gospel Transformation Bible

Published by Crossway, this bible is not *so much* a study bible, but a bible with commentary to help you see the bigger picture of Christ and His Gospel in and through all the Scriptures.

# **ARE YOU NEW HERE?**

#### WELCOME TO LIFE MISSION CHURCH!

We're so glad you joined us today! We'd LOVE for you to fill out the green Connection Card on your seat to let us know you were here today. You can drop it in the offering at the end of service or take it to one of our teammates in a Green Shirt at the Connection Booth outside - we'd love to give you some welcome information.

Feel free to **grab some food or coffee** out in the courtyard and hang out. We hope you'll **join us next Sunday** and consider making us your church family.

### **SERVING OPPORTUNITIES**

If you've ever taken your child to one of our Kids on Mission classes, or enjoyed a cup of coffee after service, chances are there was a **faithful servant** behind each of those examples. By giving your time and talent on Sundays, you're **an essential part** of helping others meet Jesus, and serving is one of the **most fun & rewarding ways we experience community** with our church family! Fill out a connection card or visit the **Connection Booth** to learn about the serving opportunities available today.

### **COMMUNITY GROUPS**

The best way to **get connected** in the church is by joining one of our **Community Groups!** You'll **forge friendships**, be encouraged, and take the sermon deeper into your heart every week. **Sign up for a Group** on a **Connection Card** or visit the **Connection Booth**. You won't regret it!

#### GIVING

Gospel-centered generosity should never be fueled by obligation or guilt; it should be motivated by a heart of thankfulness because of the sacrificial love God has already shown us. If you call Life Mission your Home, you can place your gift in the offering baskets at the end of service, give online at lifemissionchurch.com/blog/give or mail a check to our PO Box. Thank you so much for your love & support!

#### KIDS ON MISSION

Our Kids are incredibly important to us! The Kids on Mission ministry has classrooms for newborns - 6<sup>th</sup> grade & is passionately overseen by Audra Napolitano. Please Visit lifemissionchurch.com/blog/kids to read more about the vision and plan we have for our kids, including Pastor Jobey's heart and his walkthrough of our curriculum.

### JUNIOR HIGH & HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

Our Junior High students (7th & 8th graders) worship with the adults, and then head to their class for the rest of service. We challenge them to dig deeper into what they learned on Sunday throughout the week.

Our **High School students** stay in the adult service because we believe that it is critical for them to not "graduate the faith" when they graduate school. For questions on our student ministries, contact **Casey Barnes** at **hbarnes5@yahoo.com** or **John Hawthorne** at **hawthorne-john@hotmail.com** 

# SAVE.

Jesus was sent to save. We have been saved to be sent. We are sent into our community to share the Good News that Christ came to save us, and we hope to see many who find new life.

# EQUIP.

We want to equip those very people in the Word so that they can continue to grow as disciples of Christ. From our preschool to our adults, our passion is to see everyone equipped in the Gospel to live a life of freedom and joy.

# SEND.

Lastly, we then want to see those equipped people sent into their community and world. From schools and playgrounds, to families and work places, we want to see people who are spiritual leaders in their life, showing people the truth of Christ's Good News.

## **CONTACT US:**

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## COMMUNITY GROUP HOMEWORK

Read <b>Matthew 5:7-16</b> . What verses stuck out or what most impactful from the message on Sunday?
In <b>verses 6 and 10</b> the word righteousness is given great importance. How would you define this word?
Jesus tells us in <b>verses 11-12</b> to be glad when we are persecuted. Read <b>Romans 12:14-21.</b> How do we endure persecution?
Why do we endure persecution (verse 10)?
Read 2 Timothy 3:12-14. What is 2 Timothy 3:12 promising us? And what advice does is given to us 2 Timothy 3:14?
In what ways have you been persecuted for your faith?
In <b>verse 13</b> , Jesus says "You are the salt of the world." Salt is very useful in a bunch of different ways such as a preservative and a seasoning. How can you be useful to God in this world?
In verse 14 Jesus calls you, Christian "the light of the world!" Think about that! Read Ephesians 5:6-21, Philippians 2:12-16 and John 8:12.
Dallas Willard said "The cost of discipleship is great, but the cost of non-discipleship is far greater." Do you agree or disagree with this statement? Why or why not?
Spend some time in prayer as a group asking God to give you a passion for the sake of the Gospel.