



Sermon Notes

Matthew 5:1-16 | November 3rd

Outline

"You _____ the kingdom with _____ hands"

"Life in the Kingdom needs a New _____"

"Life in the Kingdom calls for a Different _____"

"Life in the Kingdom requires _____"

What areas of your life do you feel the strongest tension between fitting in and standing out as a Christian?

The sermon mentions that mourning is blessed. What things in our world should Christians mourn over, and how can we do this in a healthy way?

How does Jesus's definition of meekness differ from the world's understanding of the term?

What does it mean to "hunger and thirst for righteousness"? When have you experienced this in your life?

What specific challenges do you face in being a peacemaker in your family, workplace, or community?

What's the difference between facing persecution for righteousness' sake versus facing criticism for being unnecessarily offensive?

The sermon mentions that we "enter the kingdom through poverty of spirit and persecution of the flesh." How have you experienced this in your faith journey?

What does it mean to you that "entry into God's kingdom is not exit from the world"?

The sermon emphasizes that Monday and Wednesday are just as important as Tuesday (election day) in God's kingdom. How can we maintain this perspective beyond this week?

*Digging Deeper
Read Philippians 2:1-13*

Both Matthew 5 and Philippians 2 speak to a kind of "emptying." How does Christ's example of emptying himself help us understand what it means to be "poor in spirit"? In what ways does our culture resist this kind of emptying, and how can we cultivate this spiritual poverty in our daily lives?

Compare the Beatitudes' focus on meekness, mercy, and peacemaking with Philippians 2:3-4 ("Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves").

How does Philippians 2 expand our understanding of kingdom vision? What specific practices or habits might help us develop the mindset of Christ that looks not only to our own interests but also to the interests of others?

