



Blessed are ... – a week with the Beatitudes

THE SERIES AT A GLANCE

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7 days of 8 minutes

Discovering whom Jesus calls blessed – and why that turns our standards upside down

Preparation: 5 min

How to use the series: One devotion a day – ideal for a camp week, a holiday club or seven meetings. At the start, briefly recall the day before.

1 Part 1: Those with empty hands

Bible: Matthew 5:3

Jesus begins the Sermon on the Mount with a bang: “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.” Blessed are not those who have everything under control, but those who know: I need God. Whoever comes with empty hands can receive gifts.

Question: Where do you notice that you need God?

Prayer: *Jesus, I come to you with empty hands. Please fill them. Amen.*



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2 Part 2: Those who mourn

Bible: Matthew 5:4

“Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.” Jesus does not play grief down. He does not promise that pain will disappear at once, but that those who mourn will not be left alone. If something makes you sad for a long time, talk to a person you trust – comfort often comes through people.

 **Question:** Who has comforted you before?

 **Prayer:** *God, comfort everyone who is sad – and make me someone who comforts. Amen.*

3 Part 3: The meek

Bible: Matthew 5:5

“Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.” Meek does not mean weak. It means being strong enough not to hit back; not using your own strength against others. In a world where the loudest often win, Jesus says: the future belongs to those who stay kind.

 **Question:** When is it hard to stay gentle?

 **Prayer:** *Jesus, you were gentle and strong at the same time. Help me not to use my strength against others. Amen.*

4 Part 4: Those who hunger for righteousness

Bible: Matthew 5:6

“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.” Some things in the world are simply unfair – and we must not shrug them off. Jesus calls blessed those who do not accept this: who stand up for others, speak out against injustice and long for God’s good order.

 **Question:** Which injustice will not let you go?

 **Prayer:** *God, make me hungry for justice and brave enough to stand up for others. Amen.*



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5 Part 5: The merciful

Bible: Matthew 5:7

"Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy." Merciful people have a heart for those who are struggling – and then do something too. Whoever does not hold others' mistakes against them for ever and gives them a second chance will experience grace themselves.

💬 **Question:** Who could you show mercy to today?

🙏 **Prayer:** *Jesus, you are merciful to me. Give me a big heart for others. Amen.*

6 Part 6: The pure in heart

Bible: Matthew 5:8

"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God." A pure heart does not mean being perfect, but honest and undivided: no double game, no mask. Whoever is genuine before God and people gets a clear view – also of God in everyday life.

💬 **Question:** Where do you sometimes wear a mask?

🙏 **Prayer:** *God, give me a pure, honest heart. Help me to be genuine before you and before others. Amen.*

7 Part 7: The peacemakers

Bible: Matthew 5:9–10

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God." Peacemaking is active: settling arguments, building bridges, taking the first step. And Jesus says honestly that there may be headwind when you do what is right. But whoever lives like this shows: I belong to God's family.

💬 **Question:** What are you taking away from this week with the Beatitudes?

🙏 **Prayer:** *God, make me someone who makes peace. I want to live as your child. Amen.*



For leaders

- Never put young people on the spot: ask open questions, nobody has to answer.
- Let one of the young people read the Bible text aloud.