



Sermons of the Savior

Matthew 5:5-7

Lesson 2

As we continue to study the Beatitudes, we find that they represent an outlook radically different from that of the world. The world praises pride, not meekness. The world places little value on righteousness and, instead, excuses sin. The world encourages a selfish lifestyle that considers self first. Jesus teaches that these worldly attitudes do not result in blessing and shows us the kind of living that brings true fulfillment and satisfaction.

OBSERVATION: Read Matthew 5:5-7

1. Read through this week's verses using both your Observation Worksheet (the last page of this homework) and another Bible translation or paraphrase. After reading through these verses, what would you say to someone if they asked you what they were about?
2. Key words help us to better understand the verses. We have listed below key words. Mark each one in a distinctive way (either with a symbol, highlighting, or some form of boxing, circling, or underlining). Mark each of the key words each time they are used in the text.
Key Words: Underline or highlight the phrases that begin with the word *blessed*
Underline or highlight in a different way the phrases that begin with the word *for*
3. Using the phrases which you highlighted or underlined, complete the following chart:

Blessed are:	for:

CONSIDER THESE THINGS:

1. What are some words or phrases that come to your mind as you consider the word *meek*?
2. Describe what it is like to be physically hungry and thirsty.
3. What are some of the various ways people view their own sin?

Read Matthew 5:5

1. The words *humble* and *meek* are interchangeable in the Bible. They have been translated from the same Hebrew and Greek words. *Meekness* is not weakness. Rather it is power under control. It is a life that recognizes its dependency on God and also recognizes the power and control available. In what ways does a misperception of *meekness* cause us to avoid seeking it?

2. What can we learn from the following verses about *meekness*?

Numbers 12:3

Challenge: In what ways did Moses display *meekness*?

Psalm 22:26

Psalm 37:11

Isaiah 29:19

Isaiah 61:1

3. What instruction are we given in Colossians 3:12?
 - a. Although we are commanded to *put on meekness (gentleness)*, according to Galatians 5:22,23, what are we taught about *meekness*?

- 1.) Rather than be determined to be *meek*, we must recognize that we cannot be *meek* outside of the power of the Holy Spirit. What have you discovered from your efforts of trying to do good things or be good in your strength and through your own efforts?

- 2.) Explain, as you would to a new Christian, how God changes people through the power of the Holy Spirit.

4. What is the reward of *meekness*?
 - a. In what ways does a *meek* attitude help us enjoy the things of this life now?
 - 1.) In godly *meekness*, there is true confidence. What confidence do we have according to:
Romans 5:1-5

1 Corinthians 10:13
 - b. Revelation 5:10 reveals that we will experience a further fulfillment of this promise during the 1,000 year reign of Christ. What does this verse teach?

5. What do you think God appreciates about a life of *meekness*?

Read Matthew 5:6

1. Man *hungers and thirsts* after many things in this life. What are some?

2. What does Jesus tell us we are to *hunger and thirst* for?
 - a. We must *hunger and thirst* to “be” *righteous* as well as *hunger and thirst* to “do” *righteousness*. What happens when a person concentrates primarily on his *righteous* status before God (the work of Christ on the cross) and neglects to “do” *righteous* deeds?

- 1.) What happens when a person concentrates primarily on “doing” *righteous* deeds and neglects his dependency on the work of Christ to make him *righteous*?

3. The following verses give us a sense of what Jesus was encouraging. Reflect upon the attitude expressed in each one. What do you see?
Psalm 42:1,2

Psalm 63:1

Psalm 84:2

Psalm 107:9

4. The Samaritan woman at the well was looking for fulfillment in wrong places; in wrong people. What was Jesus’ message to her in John 4:14?

5. *Hungering and thirsting after righteousness* is not seeking our own goodness, but it is *hungering and thirsting* after God Himself. Jesus calls us to *Come to Him*. What does He promise those who do? See John 7: 37-39.

6. What is the result of *hungering and thirsting after righteousness*?
 - a. In what ways have you discovered more of God/the working of the Holy Spirit in your life to be true *fulfillment*?

7. David was a man who *hungered* for God. Meditate on David’s joy as reflected in Psalm 4:7. What are your thoughts?

Read Matthew 5:7

1. The fifth "Beatitude" (attitude we are to be) is recorded in Matthew 5:7. What is it?
 - a. What are some synonyms for the word *merciful*?
 - 1.) What are some antonyms?
2. Read the following scriptures and record the practical ways God would have us show *mercy*.
Isaiah 58:7

Galatians 6:1,2

Acts 20:35
3. In what way is *forgiveness* an expression of *mercy*?
4. Consider the attitudes reflected in James 2:15-17 and 1 John 3:17. How are these examples a display of a lack of *mercy*?
5. God rewards *mercy*. What does God promise the *merciful*?
Matthew 5:7

Psalm 18:25

Proverbs 19:17

Matthew 25:34,35
6. Why do you think Christians, at times, are guilty of withholding *mercy*?

REVIEW: Read Matthew 5:5-7

1. After studying this week's lesson, what did you learn about:

Meekness

Hungering and thirsting after righteousness

Being merciful

2. In what ways did/does Jesus exemplify the attitudes of *meekness* and *mercy*?
3. Which Beatitude in this lesson do you find most challenging to walk in? Why?
4. We have the promise of blessing if we choose attitudes of *meekness* and *mercy*; if we *hunger and thirst after righteousness*. Why do you think God is blessed when we choose them?

For He satisfies the longing soul, and fills the hungry soul with goodness.

- Psalm 107:9

Observation Worksheet

Matthew 5:5-7

⁵ Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

⁶ Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be filled.

⁷ Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.