



Series: Unexpected Messiah
Passage Matthew 5:4-6
Title: The Blessed Life
Speaker: Pastor David Menard – 5/10/2020

Discussion Starter –The Beatitudes are a clear description of character traits valued and demonstrated by Jesus. How can being poor in spirit, mourning, and meekness possibly lead to happiness and joy? How are these traits related to the selfless love demonstrated by Jesus (agape love)? How might selflessness lead to joy?

Meekness is power under control

- Is the trait of being poor in spirit contrary to achieving success in life? Can you be poor in spirit and confident at the same time? Does being meek imply that you are a “doormat”?
- How did the Pharisee’s deep, intellectual understanding of scripture, ironically, lead to missing God’s message of hope? How is this related to being poor in spirit? Does the insight provided by the Beatitudes conflict with Old Testament law and instruction?
- Do we value meekness in our leaders – generals, politicians, business leaders? Is it possible to be meek and bold at the same time? Is a meek person deficient of strength? (See Webster’s definition). What are a couple biblical synonyms for meekness (See Galatians 5:22-23).
- In the message this week, Pastor David said that “strong people don’t pick fights”. Read 1 Peter 2:23. How did Jesus respond in the strength of meekness when rejected?
- What does “power under control” mean? Have you seen or experienced this? If so, provide an example?

Meekness is winsome

- What is the meaning of “winsome”? Why is meekness in a powerful person attractive?
- How are humility and meekness related? How are gentleness and meekness related?
- Read Philippians 2:8. How is this an example of meekness and strength coexisting?
- Pastor David taught that being poor in spirit and being mournful are prerequisites for the character trait of meekness. Do you agree? Why or why not?
- How does a sense of self-righteousness lead to a lack of hunger for Jesus? See Proverbs 27.
- How do being poor in spirit, mournful, and meek lead to a thirst for righteousness? How do we know that we are hungering and thirsting for righteousness?
- We are going to be hungry for something – either good or bad. What are some substitutes we might try to use to satisfy our spiritual hunger (See Psalm 1, John 4:10)