



**Series:** Unexpected Messiah  
**Passage** Matthew 5:6-12  
**Title:** The Blessed Life (Part 2)  
**Speaker:** Pastor JC Cooper – 5/17/2020

**Discussion Starter** – Why do you think Jesus delivered the beatitudes in this specific order? Do you think they follow in this order as a Christian matures in their walk, or are some of these behaviors more natural for some people and more difficult for others?

### **The Blessed Life Part 2** (Matthew 5:6-12)

- Hunger and thirst are extremely powerful human appetites, especially in Jesus’s time on earth. Think of the last time that you had an extended period of time without food or water. Why do you think we might have a problem with hungering and thirsting for righteousness in the world we live in today?
- What does it mean to be filled? Read Isaiah 55:1-3. Discuss the insights gained from these verses.
- How would you define mercy and why is it so important for us as Christians to be merciful?
- Pastor JC identified three key traits of people who are merciful. They assume the best about others, they are quick to forgive, and they give mercy because they have received mercy. Which of these are the hardest for you to do and how are they all connected? Read Matthew 6:14-15. Discuss your thoughts on why Jesus used these verses as a conclusion of the LORD’s prayer.
- What is the danger in being flippant and saying “it’s no problem” when we forgive people?
- What are some examples you have seen in your own life of those who have demonstrated this merciful beatitude quality? What are some practical ways we can be more merciful in our own current situations?
- Describe in your own words what it means to be pure in heart and how does that enable us to see God?
- What does it mean to be a peacemaker and why are we then called sons of God?
- What is the difference between being a peacemaker and a peacekeeper? Read Matthew 15:21-28 and 2 Corinthians 5:18-19. Discuss insights gained from these verses.
- How would you describe what it means to be persecuted for righteousness sake? What are some examples of how you have been persecuted?
- How do we reconcile blessings and persecution? Read Philippians 3:8-11. Discuss what Jesus is conveying through Paul’s letter to the church in this passage. How does this apply to us as Christians today?