

THE BEATITUDES

A ROADMAP FOR SPIRITUAL GROWTH

Matthew 5:1-12

In Jesus' own words:

“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.”

Actional Behavior and Attitude:

1 ‘Poor in spirit’ means to be humble and completely dependent on God. True humility comes from the realization that all your gifts and blessings ... come from the grace of GOD.

Bible verse: Psalms 84:2

“Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.”

Actional Behavior and Attitude:

2 As we grow in love and gratitude for Jesus Christ, our Savior, we mourn ands experience personal grief and regret over our own sins and the sins of this world!

Bible verse: John 16:22

“Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.”

Actional Behavior and Attitude:

3 Meekness is not weakness, but strength under control. It involves gentleness, humility, and the ability to respond to others with patience and kindness ... even when provoked.

Bible verse: Matthew 6:5-8

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

Actional Behavior and Attitude:

4 You are to embrace a deep desire for justice and moral integrity. Capture a longing for GOD'S righteousness to be evident in you personal conduct and throughout our community.

Bible verse: Romans 3:22

“Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.”

Actional Behavior and Attitude:

5 Mercy involves showing forgiveness and compassion to others, even when it's underserved. It reflects GOD'S unconditional love and mercy towards humanity.

Bible verse: Romans 12:6-9

“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.”

Actional Behavior and Attitude:

6 To be pure of heart means to be free of all selfish intentions and self-seeking desires. It means having a heart free of deceit and filled with genuine love for GOD and others.

Bible verse: First Timothy 1:5

“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.”

Actional Behavior and Attitude:

7 Peace is a fruit of the Holy Spirit. Peacemakers actively work towards reconciliation and harmony ... to preserve peace between GOD and man. Prayer is the critical component to achieve peace in your heart.

Bible verse: James 3:18

“Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.”

Actional Behavior and Attitude:

8 Jesus acknowledged the reality of suffering for one's faith and ongoing commitment to righteousness. It reflects the idea that this enduring persecution for standing up for GOD'S principles ... is a path to receiving divine reward.

Bible verse: 2 Thessalonians 1:4

Living out the Beatitudes in our daily lives requires a deep commitment to embodying the values and principles that Jesus lived and taught us. May we diligently strive to live-out these “behavioral guideposts” in our daily lives.

