

A disciple's influence

Matthew 5:1-16

OUTLINE:

- A disciple's character
- A disciple's influence

- **KEY TAKEAWAY** → Meditating on God's Word is a means of grace that will root you

BACKGROUND:

VIDEO: For a great introduction to the Gospel of Matthew watch:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NUh9Bsiee_U

One of the primary ideas that Matthew wants his audience (Jewish) to understand is that Jesus is the continuation and fulfillment of the Hebrew Bible (the Old Testament). In the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus announces the arrival of the Kingdom of God (God's rescue operation for the whole world). Even though the world does not recognize him, He is the KING, and his presence ushers in the reality of the Kingdom of God. In the Sermon on the Mount Jesus explains to his disciples what life in the Kingdom is like and how it is in opposition to the kingdoms of this world. Jesus means for his followers to live out this way of life and to serve as a foretaste of God's coming kingdom as salt and light in this broken and fallen world.

QUESTIONS:

Q: In Matthew 5:1-12, a section called "the Beatitudes" Jesus describes those who are blessed according to God. What are the "blessed" like? How would people in our culture describe such people?

Q: If our culture were to write a summary of what we (people in our culture) consider to be the blessed life (good life) what we would say? Bless are the _____ for there is _____.

Q: What would it take for you to have a general feeling of well being and blessing? What would have to be in place in your life for you to say, "I truly am blessed" and really mean it?

Q: What is your "security blanket"? What person/thing gives you the most sense of security- what would be the most difficult person/thing for you to leave behind?

Q: Jesus says his disciples are salt and light and warns that if the salt becomes less salty and if the light is hidden it's good for nothing. According to Jesus what does it mean to be "salty" (see Matthew 5:1-12).

Q: Jesus says that we shine our light so that they may see our good works and give glory to God. What type of "good deeds" could we do that would cause people to be moved to give glory to God because of them?

Matthew 5:13

In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

-1Mission Mexico Homebuilding Trip February 17-20 • email kennykohlmeier@gmail.com with questions. Register online at ahwatukee.newvalleychurch.org/events

-Abounding in Hope women's retreat • February 3-5 at Camp Pinerock in Prescott • \$100/person, register by January 15th at ahwatukee.newvalleychurch.org/events

-Men's Retreat • March 31 – February 2 at Camp Pinerock in Prescott • Bob Smart will be teaching on gospel identity • registration and more info coming soon