

THE
LIVING ROOM

SESSIONS

with
(Lf) livingfaith
Church

FRIDAY, MARCH 27TH: MATTHEW 5:1-20

Matthew 5:1-20

Introduction to the Sermon on the Mount

1 Now when Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him, 2 and he began to teach them.

The Beatitudes

He said:

3 "Blessed are the poor in spirit,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

4 Blessed are those who mourn,
for they will be comforted.

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

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

7 Blessed are the merciful,
for they will be shown mercy.

8 Blessed are the pure in heart,
for they will see God.

9 Blessed are the peacemakers,
for they will be called children of God.

10 Blessed are those who are persecuted because of
righteousness,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

11 "Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you
and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of
me. 12 Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in
heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets
who were before you.

Salt and Light

13 "You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot.

14 "You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. 15 Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. 16 In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

The Fulfillment of the Law

17 "Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. 18 For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth disappear, not the smallest letter, not the least stroke of a pen, will by any means disappear from the Law until everything is accomplished. 19 Therefore anyone who sets aside one of the least of these commands and teaches others accordingly will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever practices and teaches these commands will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. 20 For I tell you that unless your righteousness surpasses that of the Pharisees and the teachers of the law, you will certainly not enter the kingdom of heaven.

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The Intro of Jesus' Sermon

This life-altering sermon, that has been recorded for 2000 years and has been taught on millions of times, happened simply because people were willing to come and listen to Jesus speak. When we are willing to listen to God, He often drops incredible amounts of wisdom on us. This passage starts out with just that: an incredible amount of wisdom. In the first 12 verses, called the beatitudes, Jesus defines what human qualities bring God's blessings. It's not accomplishment, pride, or beauty, it's people who are merciful, peaceful, and even hurting.

He then clearly lays out our identities as Christians as people who are, "Salt and Light," and himself as a Savior who didn't come to do away with the work of God, but to build on it. So much of this is based on identity: who are you striving to be, who are you in Jesus, and who is He to you?

Reflection Points

1. Am I working towards the right goals in my life, or am I trying to be what I see as successful in the world's eyes?
2. Do I really live as "Salt and Light" to the world around me, or do I expect others to be that, but exempt myself?
3. Do I allow Jesus the space in my life to speak identity over me?

Prayer for Today:

God, help me to work towards the right goals, and be the kind of person that lives up to the calling you have put in my life. Thank you for redeeming me from a pointless life, and giving me a purpose! Help me to not be like the world today, but to press into who you are.