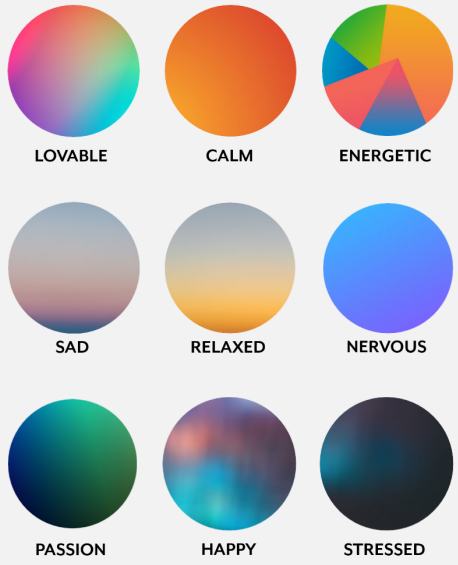


Mood Picker How are you feeling?



LOVABLE CALM ENERGETIC
SAD RELAXED NERVOUS
PASSION HAPPY STRESSED

THIS WEEK WE WILL BE LOOKING AT HOW TO BE BLESSED. ALSO KNOWN AS HOW TO 'BE' WITH YOUR ATTITUDE

MATTHEW 5:1-12

TOPIC STUDY

Beatitudes Study

ABSTRACT

Jesus tackled the topic of being blessed in His first and most famous sermon on the Mount.

Melanie Dixon, Pastor Geek

Gathering Together

INTRODUCTION AND SCRIPTURE

KEYS TO CONSIDER

- Be sure to look at cross references and see if you are able to find examples of each beatitude in other portions of scripture. I have provided some to start you on the first one.

BACKGROUND MATTHEW IN GENERAL

Author:

Literary Type:

Who was it written to / Purpose:

BASIC PROCESS TO GUIDE YOU

1. Read each scripture at through on its own.
2. Read the scriptures before and after to ensure you have the context.
3. Write down or highlight key words in each scripture
4. Look up each of the words you highlighted and write down their meaning.
5. Look up each cross reference.
6. Write out in your own words the meaning of each verse
7. Write out questions or thoughts that come to your mind as you are looking at each scripture.
8. Be sure to write it all out. You will be surprised at what you write. This gets it out of our heads (which can be a scary place if your mind is anything like mine).

SCRIPTURES

Please remember that while I am giving you a starting point, please do not feel that you need to stay with this list of scripture they are to just help you get started.

Matthew 5:1-12

Luke 18:9-14

(Psalm 51:1-6, 16-17,

Proverbs 29:23,

Luke 1:46-55, and Ephesians 2:1-10

Luke 14:7-11

What other scriptures did you find?

REMEMBER DON'T ASSUME YOU KNOW THE DEFINITION LOOK IT UP

VERSE	WORD	DEFINITION

OBSERVATION / ANALYSIS

TAKE TIME TO WRITE DOWN YOUR THOUGHT ON EACH VERSE

Verse	What does it say?	What does it mean?

CROSS REFERENCES

Verse	Cross reference/where else is it explained	Thoughts/notes

QUESTIONS?

Example questions you may want to think about. What is the meaning of _____? What is the significance of _____? Why is this important?

All of these questions are geared toward the first beatitude if we need more I will have more in the weeks to come.

- (1) Does "blessed (happy) are the poor in spirit" seem counterintuitive to you? Why or why not?
- (2) "poor" in Greek has the meaning "to cower and cringe like a beggar." With this meaning in mind, what do you think it looks like to be poor in spirit?
- (3) What was wrong with the Pharisee's "prayer"?
- (4) Jesus closes this passage (Luke 18) with another paradox: "Those who exalt themselves will be humbled..." Does this tie into the Beatitude we're discussing? Why or why not?
- (5) What is the difference between boosting and humility?
- (6) Can you think of something in our culture today that's similar to "taking the place of honor?"
- (7) What are some ways that we seek honor and attention? Where, outside of God, are we prone to strive for a "favorable verdict" from God, others, or even ourselves? What impact does this have on our thought life? Our relationships?



PERSONAL APPLICATION/THOUGHTS

What are your thoughts on the passage? What are some things that you need to consider in your day-to-day life? What are some things you hadn't thought of before?

APPLICATION:

- Is, Personal.
- Is, the act of putting to use or putting into operation especially for some practical purpose.
- Begins with belief and results in being and doing.
- Motivates you to respond and make changes.
- Is, making a relevant truth a personal truth, and involves developing a strategy and action plan to live your life.

It is not:

- Accumulation of knowledge. While this helps us discover and understand, it does not help us change. The Goal is not simply to understand, there are many who understand but do not believe or change.
- Application is not just illustration. Illustration only tells us how someone else handled a similar situation. While we may empathize with that person, we still have little direction for our personal situation.
- Application is not just making a passage "relevant." Making the Bible relevant only helps us to see that the same lessons that were true in Bible times are true today; it does not show us how to apply them to the problems and pressures of our individual lives.

GOALS

You can't communicate something you have never experienced in your own life.

- Putting the truth, you have discovered into use in you daily life.
- Documenting for yourself and others how the scriptures applied to your life at a point in time.
- Responding in faith to what God has shown and revealed to you.
- Transforming your Life.
- Being able to explain to someone if they ask why, you believe what you do.

