

Who really is well off? ~ Part 2
Future Promises and Present Assurance
Matthew 5:1-12

“This is what I mean, brothers: the appointed time has grown very short. From now on, let those who have wives live as though they had none, and those who mourn as though they were not mourning, and those who rejoice as though they were not rejoicing, and those who buy as though they had no goods, and those who deal with the world as though they had no dealings with it. For the present form of this world is passing away.” I Corinthians 7:29-31

GROWTH GROUP GUIDE • WEEK 2: MATTHEW 5:1-12

OPENER

"Your time is limited, so don't waste it living someone else's life. Don't be trapped by dogma which is living the results of other people's thinking. Don't let the noise of others' opinions drown out your own inner voice. And most important, have the courage to follow your intuition." -Steve Jobs

Are you able to evaluate the desires of your heart? Should we judge desires morally or issues of the heart amoral?

BIBLE STUDY

Read through Matthew 5:1-12 and 2 Corinthians 5:11-21

1. What kind of satisfaction is found in Christ? Matthew 5:6
2. Who will be children of God? Matthew 5:9
3. What is the response of believers to be when they are slandered or treated unfairly because of Jesus? Matthew 5:12
4. Believers are not to live for themselves, but for whom? 2 Corinthians 5:15
5. We regard no one according to the flesh, or in a purely physical way (2 Corinthians 5:16). What do you think this means?
6. Write down 2 Corinthians 5:17.
7. All this is from God, who through Christ _____ us to Himself and gave us the ministry of _____; that is, in Christ God was _____ the world to Himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of _____.
Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making His appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be _____ to God. For our sake He made Him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in Him we might become the righteous of God. 2 Corinthians 5:18-21

DISCUSSION

1. What do you hunger and thirst for?
2. What blessing do you seek from the Lord? What blessing in the beatitudes do you desire? Do you yearn for what Jesus promises?
3. What does peacemaking have to do with the Gospel? What does it say about the Gospel when believers live in broken relationships? Do you have a broken relationship that needs peacemaking?
4. What does it mean to be pure in heart? What does it mean to be merciful?
5. What do the people around you hunger and thirst for? What heart needs does that reveal? Do you think that these desires can be met by Jesus?

MAKING ROOM TO MAKE DISCIPLES

Is there someone God is putting on your heart to lead into discipleship? Do you think of that person as someone that God wants to reconcile to Himself? What might that mean? How can you work to have a relationship with that friend that requires reconciling work between you? Have you been a peacemaker in your own relationships?