

The Content of the Sermon on the Mount

Chapter 2

Audio lesson: Sermon on the Mount 2



Objective: To introduce the context and content of the Sermon on the Mount. (Text: Matthew 5; 6; 7)



Now when he saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him, and he began to teach them, saying: “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

—Matthew 5:1-10

The Sermon on the Mount is one of the key teachings of the Bible. Jesus preached this sermon on a mountaintop in Galilee when He challenged people who professed to be His disciples to be strategically placed between the love of God and the pain of the hurting people in the world. He challenged His disciples to partner with Him and be conduits of His love. He concluded His sermon with a call to commitment. It changed the lives of many who heard it. He appointed 12 of those people to be His apostles, or “sent ones.” Those apostles lived and died for Jesus as they made disciples for Him all over the world.



1. True or false? Being a disciple of Jesus is the easiest way to live.
2. True or false? Jesus taught with authority, not as the scribes taught.
3. True or false? Jesus began His teaching by talking about the attitudes we should have.
4. True or false? The Beatitudes force us to look inside of us.

Unless otherwise noted, choose one best answer for each question.

5. The Gospel of Matthew most strongly emphasizes Jesus as _____.
 - a. King
 - b. Preacher
 - c. Priest
 - d. Holy man
6. Which of the following do we see in the Sermon on the Mount? (*choose all that apply*)
 - a. The crisis of becoming a Christian
 - b. The comfort of being a Christian
 - c. The character of being a Christian
 - d. The challenge of being a Christian
 - e. The danger of being a Christian
7. Where does the Sermon on the Mount cause us to look?
 - a. Inside of ourselves
 - b. Up to God
 - c. Around at the world
 - d. All of the above
8. Jesus taught the Sermon on the Mount to the disciples for whose primary benefit?
 - a. For the select few disciples
 - b. For Himself and His own popularity
 - c. For the multitudes at the bottom of the mountain
 - d. For the religious leaders of the time



If Jesus called you to the top of the mountain to hear His teaching, would you go with Him? In what ways can you do that now through the teaching of His Word?



Thank God that He loves the world so much that He has a solution for the world's problems. Ask Him to help you do what would be impossible without His help—to have the attitudes and character Jesus taught in the Sermon on the Mount.



Going Deeper

1. What is the crisis involved in becoming a Christian? _____

2. What does the Sermon on the Mount say about the character of the Christian? _____

3. To what does Jesus compare the believer who applies His teaching in the Beatitudes? _____

4. Pastor Woodward teaches that the application of Matthew chapters 5 and 6 calls for an “in-look, an out-look (around-look), and an up-look.” Explain the terms “in-look, out-look, and up-look.” _____

5. Show how this perspective changes the believer into “part of the solution rather than part of the problem.” _____

6. What can you learn from these verses that will make you salt and light to those around you? _____

7. How does commitment to the golden rule make a person part of the solution? _____
