



June 14, 2020

Matthew 5:1-12 Kevin Sneed

1. Read verses 2-12. How do Jesus' description of His Kingdom and its citizens clash with your common sensibilities about what kingdoms should look like?
2. How do you think that the original crowd of people who sat on that mountainside and heard Jesus teach these beatitudes would have reacted to Jesus' description of His kingdom?
3. The best translation of the Greek word for blessed is "*a declaration of congratulations*" or "*Blessed are you.*" How does the fact that these beatitudes are not commands or some high bar to get over for entrance affect how you embrace these beatitudes?
4. Each of the eight beatitudes is a description with a promise:
 - A. Which beatitude comforts you the most right now? Why?
 - B. Which beatitude creates the most conflict in you right now? Why?
5. How do these beatitudes comfort those who are suffering physical or spiritual brokenness, economic struggles, and relationship struggles of all kinds?
6. What do these beatitudes say to people who desire to love and minister to their neighbors, especially those who are suffering under the kingdoms of this world?
7. How can the Kingdom of God be the vision of unity for us to rally around in this time of great division and anger in our society?

