

The questions below are designed to be used by Saylorville Church Community Groups as they meet during the week following the Sunday morning message at Saylorville. The intent is not for groups to answer every question, but for leaders to use the questions as a guide as they tailor the discussion to the unique needs of their group. The Sunday message and these questions can be found each week at www.saylorvillechurch.com/sermons.

CONNECT WITH YOUR GROUP (10-15 MINUTES)

- If you were to ask your neighbors or coworkers to define the term “blessed”, what do you think they would say?
- As a group, brainstorm passages that use the word “blessed” in Scripture, other than in Matthew 5.
- With those passages in mind, how might you define the biblical concept of “blessed”?

APPLY THE BIBLE (45-60 MINUTES)

- **Remember** what you talked about last time. Is there anything you need to **follow up** on this week?
- **Review** your Sermon Notes together. What is **one thing** that sticks out to you about what you learned?
- **Read** this week’s passage together. In his message, **Pastor Pat reminded us what it means to be truly “blessed” as inhabitants of God’s kingdom.**

Context:

- The Beatitudes are part of the Sermon on the Mount, recorded in Matthew 5-7. John Stott says, “The Sermon on the Mount is probably the best-known part of the teaching Jesus, though arguably it is the least understood, and certainly the least obeyed.”
- The Sermon on the Mount follows the exhortation to “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!” by both John the Baptist and Jesus. The Sermon is a description of the lifestyle of those who belong to the kingdom of God.

Holiness is adjusting yourself to God:

- Read Hebrews 10:14. The Beatitudes are all about being sanctified, adjusting yourself to God, or being more like Jesus. What are some ways that you are adjusting yourself to God right now?

In the Kingdom of Heaven:

- Jesus is King (1 Timothy 6:15 and Romans 10:9-10)
 - What are some areas of your life where you struggle to obey King Jesus?
- Becoming *poor in spirit* is the condition of kingdom inhabitants (Isaiah 61:1a and Revelation 3:17)
 - Be honest, what is your response to being called “poor in spirit”? Why is that your reaction?
- Repentance and faith in King Jesus are the requirements for admission (Luke 23:42)
 - Why is confession and repentance necessary for salvation?

Receive and Respond: What will I do because of what I just heard?**PRAY TOGETHER (5-15 MINUTES)**

- Pray that God will cause you to pursue *true blessing* during this sermon series.

