



SMALL GROUP CURRICULUM

Sermon: **“A Heart for God” (Matthew 5:8)**

Date: **May 27, 2018**

We’re continuing our mini-series in the Beatitudes this week as Pastor Jacob continues to preach verse-by-verse through the book of Matthew. These lessons from the Beatitudes have been an important lesson to our church. We can have all knowledge and know God’s Word inside and out, but such head-knowledge is ultimately futile if it does not spring from a heart like the one described in the Beatitudes. This week we are looking at the sixth Beatitude: “Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God,” (Matthew 5:8). What a promise! The one who is pure in heart will one day see God—the most beautiful, captivating, and glorious being in the universe! To be pure in heart means to be wholeheartedly devoted to God, to obey his commands, and to live a moral life. We must pursue this heart condition and beg the Lord to create a clean heart in us. Ultimately, none of us will never be truly pure of heart on this side of eternity. We must pursue purity of heart, but Christ is the only one who is truly pure of heart. The Beatitudes are ultimately meant to break us, reveal our unworthiness, and cause us to flee to Christ—that he might save and sanctify us.

What you need for this study: Bible, Notebook, Pen

Individual Bible Study

1. Please read Matthew 5:8 and ensure that you’ve listened to Sunday’s sermon.
 - a. Review: What are the Beatitudes?
 - b. Review: What does it mean to be “blessed”? How should we define this word?
 - c. Jesus wasn’t coming up with something new. He was restating truths already revealed in the Old Testament. Read Psalm 73:1. What does this say about purity of heart?
 - d. Read Psalm 24:3-4. What does this passage say about those who have purity of heart?
 - e. Read. Psalm 17:3 & 17:5. How are these verses similar to what Jesus is teaching here in Matthew 5:8?
 - f. After considering these passages and listening to the sermon, define purity. What does it mean to be pure of heart?



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- g. What are some questions we can ask ourselves to evaluate where in our heart we may be lacking in purity? How can we assess the purity of our heart?
- h. The promise in Matthew 5:8 is “for they shall see God.” What does this mean? Why is this such a big deal?
- i. How should the future promise to see God motivate us to flee from sin and temptation and pursue purity of heart?
- j. Are any of us truly pure of heart? Who is truly pure of heart? When we read through the Beatitudes and experience conviction, what are we supposed to do in response?

Group Discussion Questions

1. How did the Holy Spirit speak to you through the sermon and the Bible study this week?
2. Why does God care so much about the state of our hearts? Why is outward cleanliness not enough? Why does He require inward purity as well?
3. What does it mean to be pure of heart? How can we assess the purity of our hearts before God? What kinds of diagnostic questions can we ask ourselves to help us assess our hearts?
4. How can we purify our hearts? What role do we play in purifying our hearts (see James 4:8) and what role does God play (see Psalm 51:10)?
5. We will never be completely pure of heart on earth. How does the gospel speak to this reality? Why is Jesus our only hope when we contemplate the impurity of our hearts and lives?
6. What is the reward awaiting those who are pure of heart? How should this motivate us to flee from impurity, temptation, and sin?