



SMALL GROUP CURRICULUM

Sermon: **The Christian's Global Conquest (Matthew 5:5)**

Date: **May 6, 2018**

Jesus is up on the mountain teaching his disciples what it means to live as a citizen of God's kingdom. He begins his famous sermon on the mount by offering up a description of what a blessed life truly looks like. So far, we've learned that those who have poverty of spirit and those who mourn are blessed. This week we will study the third beatitude: "Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth," (Matthew 5:5). In the study this week, we will learn where Jesus derives this third beatitude from. As we do so, we will learn what meekness is and how meek people live. Jesus teaches us that meekness is the blessed state and those who are meek will one day inherit everything.

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

Individual Bible Study

1. Please read Matthew 5:5 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. Read Psalm 37. List out the statements in this Psalm that are similar to Matthew 5:5.
 - d. What is the context of Psalm 37? How does this help us understand what "meekness" means?
 - e. What is meekness? How should we define meekness?
 - f. What are some statements in Psalm 37 that specifically describe meekness?
 - g. What are we to think when we see the wicked prospering all around us? How can we exercise patience when the wicked prosper and the righteous suffer?



SMALL GROUP CURRICULUM

- h. How can someone assess whether or not they are meek? What kinds of questions can they ask themselves to help discern this? What sorts of character traits are true of the meek?
- i. What does it mean to “inherit the earth”?
- j. Consider the previous two characteristics of the blessed life: (1) poverty of spirit and (2) mourning. How might being poor in spirit and mourning over sin and its effects lead to meekness?

Group Discussion Questions

1. How did the Holy Spirit speak to you through the sermon and the Bible study this week?
2. Generally speaking, why in our culture is meekness seen as something that is undesirable? How does our culture treat the meek?
3. How do the meek respond when the wicked prosper and the righteous suffer—when evil triumphs over good? How does a meek person handle pain, suffering, and injustice in their life?
4. How can we assess whether or not we are growing in meekness? What does it look like for you to exhibit meekness at home? At work? In school? In your neighborhood?
5. How can we grow in meekness? What can you do to cultivate greater meekness in your life?
6. Jesus promises that the meek will *inherit the earth*? What does this mean? How does this encourage you?