



SMALL GROUP CURRICULUM

Sermon: **“Christians Only Triumph” (Matthew 5:9)**

Date: **June 3, 2018**

This week marks a shift in our mini-series on the Beatitudes. The first six beatitudes focused on the disposition of the hearts of those that are blessed. This week, as we study the seventh beatitude, we now move on from the disposition of the heart. This seventh beatitude speaks to the accomplishment of the blessed individual. As God transforms the heart, the actions of the blessed person will also be transformed. A changed heart leads to a changed life. The seventh beatitude is as follows: “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God,” (Matthew 5:9). Peace is the tangible evidence that God has blessed his people. Thus, the blessed one is one who makes peace and spreads peace in this world. They live according to Christ’s Lordship, they expand God’s dominion on earth, and they seek to proclaim his kingdom through their words and through their lives, bringing others into the peace that is only found in God’s kingdom.

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

Individual Bible Study

1. Please read Matthew 5:9 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. How is this beatitude different from that six that precede it? How is it connected to the six that precede it?
 - d. What is peace? Define it biblically.
 - e. Pastor Jacob mentioned that the Hebrew word for peace is “shalom”. What are some Old Testament passages that use this term and what do they teach us about true peace?
 - f. What is the difference between peacemaking and pacifism?
 - g. What does it mean to be a peacemaker? What are some examples of ways that we can tangibly make peace on this earth in our day-to-day lives?



SMALL GROUP CURRICULUM

- h. Can an unbeliever be a peacemaker? Why or why not?

- i. What are some examples of “fake peace” that our world promotes? Compare and contrast worldly “peace” with Christian peace (i.e. true peace).

- j. What does it mean to be called “sons of God,” (v. 9)?

Group Discussion Questions

1. How did the Holy Spirit speak to you through the sermon and the Bible study this week?

2. What comes to your mind when you hear the word “peacemaker”? Why? What does it mean to be a peacemaker?

3. Why must we first be at peace with God before we can truly live as peacemakers on this earth? See 2 Corinthians 5:17-21 for further reflection on this.

4. How has God made peace with us? How should the gospel serve as continual motivation to make peace with others?

5. How can you tangibly live as a peacemaker in your home? At your workplace? On your street? At school? Etc.

Accountability Question

Is there a broken relationship or a person in your life whom you need to make peace with? How can we hold you accountable to seek to reconcile with this person? See Romans 12:18.