<u>SUGGESTED DISCUSSION POINTS FROM JANUARY 17, 2021 SERMON</u> The Beatitudes

Have you ever studied the Beatitudes before? How have you viewed them? **Discuss**: The Beatitudes are not a description of how to get into His Kingdom but describing those who have *already* entered the Kingdom.

Poor in Spirit

Discuss: Those in the Kingdom realize that apart from God there is no hope. There are no resources in themselves to survive so if God does not come through then that's it.

Those Who Mourn

Discuss: Not only should we mourn over our personal sin, but the sinful effects of the world should cause an emotional response within the Christian.

The Meek

Discuss: God is not calling us to grab and fight for our rights in this life but to operate under His Reign and Control. When pressure is applied, humility should come out. Not because we are especially humble people, but we follow a humble leader who has shown that the path to reigning is not one of force but humility.

Those who Hunger and Thirst for Righteousness **Discuss**: Those who pursue God and His will in all forms are satisfied in God.

The Merciful

Discuss: Those who operate in the Kingdom have the characteristic of mercy. Why? Because they understand that they are also in need of mercy.

The Pure in Heart

Discuss: Jesus goes after the heart and what is going on inside that leads to actions. God knows the heart and it is His grace that purifies our hearts so that we can walk with Him.

The Peacemakers

Discuss: The reason why Christians are called to play the role of peacemaker is because our Father is a peacemaker.

The Persecuted

Discuss: When we set out to follow Jesus in this fallen world there will often be suffering. Yet, the Kingdom is ours.

If you feel *convicted* that you have strayed from these Kingdom standards, then that is God's continuous work to bring you to repentance so you can walk in the grace of the Kingdom. Where do you need to repent in order to walk further in the grace of the Kingdom?

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Current Teaching Series Dr. Jason Lancaster Week 2 January 17, 2021



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