

Series: UP, UP & Away!!!

Title: Lessons on the Beatitudes

Main Text: Matthew 5:13-16

Welcome: 15 mins. Max.

Option 1: Ask three to four people to share testimonies of answered prayers.

Option 2: Share something about your experiences (up or down moments) during the past week.

Example: "This week, I experienced _____ moments that _____."

Word: 40 mins. max.

Intro: The beautiful mindset/attitude of Christ in and through a disciple is what makes him a difference-maker. This is how we become a reflection of Jesus to the world around us. In Matthew 5:13-16, Jesus describes who we are and how He wants us to touch people through us.

Discussion:

1. Jesus describes His followers as "salt and light" –

Salt is used mainly to give flavour in food while cooking and for fresh food to be preserved from spoiling. The same can be said about us. As Christ's followers, we will be able touch many lives for His Kingdom if we live true to our calling. Describe the "world" that surrounds you daily, in what ways do you think people see difference Christ makes in your life?

2. Jesus said that we are the "light of the world." Light affects its environment. The disciple who is visibly Christ-like will have a powerful influence on people around them. As a follower of Jesus, would you describe how you become a light at your workplace, in school, in your community, to your friends, on social media, etc?

3. Whatever we do, wherever we go, we display the character of Jesus to the world around us. This is not elevate ourselves but to direct people's attention to the Lord. Would you be able to share a situation wherein people see the character of Jesus through your deed and you eventually used that opportunity to direct the focus or attention on the Lord?

4. We need to intentionally embrace and display the Beatitudes –

Being a follower of Jesus doesn't make us automatically think and behave like Him. In what specific ways can we be intentional in becoming Christ's reflection on a daily basis?

5. The Beatitudes expressed through us will reveal God to those around us. In what possible ways do you think God reveals Himself (His love, His goodness, His grace and mercy, etc.) to people?

6. What is the biggest challenge or hurdle you face that makes it difficult to consistently obey what the Bible teaches us about being a follower of Jesus Christ?

7. Matthew 5:16 says, "*In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.*" Do you know someone in particular who you can be a reflection (salt and light) of Christ this week?

Wrap up:

Our heavenly Father best reveals Himself through His heavenly-minded children. The Beatitudes and teachings of Christ are the prescribed mindset and attitude of heaven for God's children.

Summary:

We have a God who became human through Christ and lived a kind of life no one has ever lived. He came not to be served but to serve and gave His life as a ransom for sinners and rebels. Now that He is in us, we have the power to be like Him in attitude and character and glorify God in the world. .

Prayer for one another.

Ask each member of the group of their prayer needs. Assign prayer partners.