**BETHLEHEM MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH**

NOV 29 - BIBLE STUDY

**GOD YOU PROMISED…BLESSED ARE:**

MATTHEW 5: 7- 11 (**End of year study**)

**When you pray the promises of God, God will make up for what was unfair.**

**Like Joseph, he'll take you from the pit to the palace.**

**Like Ruth, he'll take you from working in a field, to owning the field.**

**Like David, he'll take you from the background to the foreground, from being overlooked to being in charge. God’s promises help to support and be your attitude!**

As we continue in the Sermon on the Mount…

**Let us Rejoice in the way God sees us!**

7 Blessed are **the merciful**: for they shall obtain mercy.

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**BLESSED ARE THE “MERCY FULL”…FOR THEY SHALL OBTAIN MORE MERCY.**

**QUESTION: WHAT HAVE YOU DONE WITH THE MERCY GIVEN YOU?**

**Mercy consists of** treating people better than they deserve from us. Forgiveness is a type of mercy. So is aiding someone whom we have no obligation to help, or forbearing to exploit someone’s vulnerability. Mercy, in all these senses, is the driving force of Christ’s incarnation, death, and resurrection.

That something so grabs and tugs at your heart, that you have no choice but to get involved by showing love, forgiveness, grace, and compassion…IT’S A DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF “YOU FEEL ME?”

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8 Blessed are **the pure in heart**: for they shall see God.

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The pure in heart are **focused from the inside out on one single thing**. In this case, that thing is **God**. Jesus promises here that, when the kingdom of heaven arrives, those who are **pure in their devotion** to God will see Him.

**QUESTION: PURE IN HEART, SPEAKS OF DEVOTION.  WHAT ARE YOUR FEELINGS REGARDING THIS STATEMENT?**

**The most significant benefit of purity is that it allows you entrance into God's holy presence**. The Bible says, “Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God”

Jesus promises here that, when the kingdom of heaven arrives, **those who are pure in their devotion to God will see Him**. This reveals a remarkable idea about God's kingdom. Most Jews would have learned at an early age that nobody can see God and live; He is too holy. Jesus, however, says that those who enter into the kingdom of heaven will see God…by the **purity of their hearts**.

**Honesty has its’ place…thoughts?**

9 Blessed are **the peacemakers**: for they shall be called the children of God.

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**QUESTION: HOW DIFFICULT IS IT TO BE A PEACEMAKER?**

10 Blessed are **they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake**: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

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11 Blessed are **ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil**

**against you falsely, for my sake**. 12 **Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven**: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you.

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**Prayer:**

**Lord, You have richly blessed us and given to us a purpose and a calling. Your desire is that we, as much as we can be salt and light. Therefore, free us from the contamination of pride, defensiveness, impatience, bitterness, busyness, and fear of people and their words. Please, show us how to combine spiritual disciplines into our lives according to our unique life situations, temperament and calling. Dear Jesus, help us to live out the Beatitudes so that our lives can bring life to those around us. And as a result, Lord, we give you glory honor and praise.**

**Amen**