

Blessed— Blessed Are Those Who Hang on God's Every Word—04.19.20

Scripture: Matthew 5.1-12

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Now when Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him,² and he began to teach them.

The Beatitudes

He said:

³ "Blessed are the poor in spirit,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

⁴ Blessed are those who mourn,
for they will be comforted.

⁵ Blessed are the meek,
for they will inherit the earth.

⁶ Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,
for they will be filled.

⁷ Blessed are the merciful,
for they will be shown mercy.

⁸ Blessed are the pure in heart,
for they will see God.

⁹ Blessed are the peacemakers,
for they will be called children of God.

¹⁰ Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

¹¹ "Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. ¹² Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

Matthew 6.22

The eye is the lamp of the body.

Summary:

This week, Pastor Jacob began a new series called Blessed. That's right, we're talking about blessings in a time of global pandemic! You can ask God for a blessing and you can recognize the blessings that you already have. Both are fine. In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus proclaimed that a whole series of people who don't seem to be blessed are blessed already. For the next 6 weeks, we want to invite you to join Pastor Jacob on Facebook Live (<https://www.facebook.com/provumc/>) on Tuesday evenings at 6:30. He'll be diving deeper into the sermon on the Mount and teaching from his book A New Playlist: Hearing Jesus in a Noisy World.

Study:

I encourage you as an individual or as a small group to tune in or watch a replay as you dive into your weekly study.

- If the things that go into your heart form a playlist, what are you listening to these days?
- What does it mean to say that the eye is the lamp of the body? What is getting in your heart through what you see?
- Jesus says the greatest commandment is to Love God and love people. How is that a relief? How is that a challenge?