

Blessing— Meek Not Weak—05.03.2020

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.

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

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

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

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

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

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

¹⁰Blessed 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. ¹²Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

Matthew 11.28-29

“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.”

Summary:

This week, we continued the series called Blessing. In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus proclaimed that a whole series of people who don't seem to be blessed are blessed already. We looked at Matthew 5.5 which says that those who are meek are blessed...that they will inherit the earth. Remember to join Pastor Jacob on Facebook Live (<https://www.facebook.com/provumc/>) on Tuesday evening 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.

- In Numbers 12.3 the Bible describes Moses as meek. The same Moses who led God's people out of Egypt and towards the promised land. Moses had every reason to believe that he was the wrong guy for the job, but instead of hiding from the calling (a common understanding of meek today), he carried forward in the strength of his calling from God. Moses was a meek leader. Have you ever felt like you were called to something but doubted that you had what it took? Where do you have an opportunity to be a meek leader?

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- The promise of Jesus' words in Matthew 5.5 is that the meek will inherit the earth or the land. It is likely that the audience was thinking about physical land, a place to call their own. But Jesus was always lifting people's eyes to the reality of God, the reality of his Kingdom (the eternal promised land). Do you ever find yourself trying to limit the promises of God to the "land" that you can see? What is Jesus trying to lift your eyes to see?
- Jacob said that to be meek means to submit your life to Jesus. What are some of the things you want to submit to Jesus so that your whole life might be submitted to him? (anger, addiction, greed).

Pray

O God I submit my life to you this day, and I'll do it again tomorrow. Please take away those things within me that do not convey a heart of meekness. I long to live for you, and so I start with prayer. I take on the yoke of Jesus who is was meek and humble in heart and I long to rest in the promised land of my inheritance. Amen.