

# What If We Took Jesus Seriously? Part 1

Hinsdale Seventh-day Adventist Church – Pastor Ron Schultz  
Sermon Notes – September 14, 2013

## Discipleship questions—where the rubber meets the road:

1. In the light of God’s redeeming grace, have you faced the truth of who you are?—a bankrupt, broken sinner in need of much grace?
  - Yes
  - Still processing this. I need prayer.
  
2. Have you faced an equally important truth?—who Jesus is? He’s your forgiving and empowering Savior!
  - Definitely
  - Still working through this. I desire prayer.
  
3. Have these truths led you to accept Jesus as more than a great teacher, but as the Lord of your life—One you’re willing to devote your life to as a follower?
  - Yes
  - Considering this seriously. I definitely need prayer!

## Next steps:

- A. Invite Jesus to live out his kingdom attitudes and actions through your life.
  
- B. Who will you intentionally extend Christ-like humility to this week? Who will you take time to listen to and serve in meekness even if you don’t feel like it?  
Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_
  
- C. This week, in your family, your neighborhood, your work place, your church, extend grace to others, the kind that Jesus has extended to you? When you do, you’re taking Jesus seriously. You’re more than a fair weather fan, you’re becoming a devoted follower of Christ.

## HSDAC Mission: Develop committed followers of Christ



Scene from the top of “Mt Sinai”  
Photo: Ron Schultz

In this four-part series based on Jesus’ Sermon on The Mount, we’ll explore what a truly devoted follower of Jesus looks and acts like. The teachings of Jesus as set forth in the Sermon on the Mount answer the questions: What if we took Jesus seriously? How would we really live in relationship to God and others?

1. Jesus becomes the new “\_\_\_\_\_.” Near the Sea of Galilee, the nameless mountain from which Jesus taught his newly called disciples becomes the “\_\_\_\_\_ of the New Testament.” “It was from Sinai that God proclaimed the divine law. It was on the unknown mountain of Galilee that Jesus reaffirmed the divine law, explaining its true meaning in greater detail and applying its precepts to the \_\_\_\_\_ of daily life.” Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary, vol 5, p. 323.
  
2. Matthew 5:1-2
  - A. Historical setting: This event takes place about a year and a half into Jesus’ public ministry.
  
  - B. According to Deuteronomy 27:12-13, when the Israelites crossed over into the promised land they were to gather six tribes on one mountain to pronounce curses and six tribes on another mountain to pronounce blessings. What was the name of the Old Testament “mount of blessing” called?  
Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

C. **"Sat down"**

D. **"His disciples came to him"** A disciple is one who is a devoted \_\_\_\_\_ of another. The disciples had demonstrated their devotion to Jesus by leaving their fishing trade to be with Jesus. They left their journeyman level livelihoods and became \_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus.

E. In this Sermon on The Mount, Jesus is putting flesh on what a disciple is like. We're called to make followers of Christ that look like the people described in his teachings in Matthew 5-7.

F. Revelation 14:1

G. **"And he began to teach them"**

2. Matthew 5:3

A. "Blessed" is not to be confused with human happiness. It's a deep \_\_\_\_\_ that's anchored to who God is \_\_\_\_\_ than external circumstances.

C. **"Poor in spirit"** is one who is honest with his natural spiritual condition. He's bankrupt and knows it.

D. Luke 18:9-14—a living description

—Jeremiah 17:9

--Philippians 3:15b "And if on some point you think differently, that too God will make clear to you."

E. **"For theirs is the Kingdom of heaven"** Matthew uses this expression \_\_\_\_\_ times but the "kingdom of God" only four times.

F. This first beatitude is like the lead locomotive on a train.

G. There is hope for our spiritual bankruptcy. "All who have a sense of their deep soul poverty, who feel that they have nothing good in themselves, may find righteousness and strength by looking unto Jesus. He says, 'Come unto Me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden.' Matthew 11:28. He bids you exchange your poverty for the riches of His grace." Ellen White, Thoughts from the Mount of Blessings, pp. 8, 9.

3. Matthew 5:4

A. **"Those who mourn"** What does this look like?  
King David: Psalm 32 and 52  
—Sorrow for what sin has cost God.  
—Sorrow for what sin has done to you.  
—Sorrow for what sin has done to others.

B. **"They will be comforted"**

C. "He [Christ] toiled with self-consuming zeal to relieve the wants and woes of humanity, and His heart was heavy with sorrow as He saw multitudes refuse to come to Him that they might have life. All who are followers of Christ will \_\_\_\_\_ in this experience. As they partake of His love they will \_\_\_\_\_ into His travail for the saving of the lost." TMB, pp. 12, 13.

4. Matthew 5:5

A. **"Are the meek"** Biblical meekness is not weakness. It's a lot like humility.

"It is the love of self that destroys our peace. While self is all alive, we stand ready continually to guard it from mortification and insult; but when we are dead, and our life is hid with Christ in God, we shall not take neglects or slights to heart. We shall be deaf to reproach and blind to scorn and insult." TMB, p. 16

B. **"They will inherit the earth"**