

- D. The reward for purity is that we get to see God both “then” when Jesus comes and “now” in our daily, spiritual walk with Christ. And the more we see God now, like Isaiah, we see our need for the God’s atoning grace!
- E. “The pure in heart live as in the visible presence of God during the time He apportions them in this world.” TMB p. 27

5. **Fresh congregational stories and opportunities for “beatitude application”**

- A. Third element of our vision statement: “Serving the local community.”
- B. Next service trip to Pacific Garden Mission to extend mercy is, **Sunday, November 3**. Church parking lot, 11:30 a.m.
- C. Next Northern Illinois Food Bank service opportunity in Willowbrook to extend mercy is **Wednesday, December 18**, church parking lot 4 p.m.
- D. Next offering to sponsor the past and present food truck (\$650 each time and it’s not in the budget) is next Sabbath, **September 28 following communion**. A special offering will be collected at the door. Will you extend mercy to others through your financial contribution?

What If We Took Jesus Seriously? Part 2

Hinsdale Seventh-day Adventist Church – Pastor Ron Schultz
Sermon Notes – September 21, 2013

HSDAC Mission: Develop committed followers of Christ



Sea of Galilee at sunset, 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. **Brief Review**

- A. “Near the Sea of Galilee, the nameless mountain from which Jesus taught his newly called disciples becomes the “Sinai of the New Testament.” Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary, vol 5, p. 323.
- B. The Sermon on the Mount takes place about a year and a half into Jesus’ _____ ministry.
- C. Reminiscent of the Old Testament Mount Gerizim where six Israelite tribes pronounced blessings after crossing into the promised land to set up a new earthly kingdom, Jesus pronounces fresh, riveting blessings unlike anything the disciples had ever heard. These beatitudes usher in a new spiritual kingdom.
- D. From a mountain in Galilee Jesus’ inaugural address describes what a _____ thinks and acts like. Prior to ascending to heaven, Jesus issues the command to “go and make disciples of all nations” from another Galilean mountain.
- E. A disciple is a devoted follower of another.
- F. The first beatitude is like the lead locomotive on a train.
- G. “Blessed” is not to be confused with human happiness. It’s a deep _____ that’s anchored to who God is rather than external circumstances.

2. **Matthew 6:6 “Hunger and thirst after righteousness”**

- A. This beatitude _____ to pursuit of the positive.

- B. What was it like for the common person in Jesus' audience?
- C. The force of the verbs, hunger and thirst, implies in the original language that one is to desire _____ righteousness not just a sip or a slice but the whole cup and the whole loaf.
- D. Matthew 6:33 – "But seek ye _____ the kingdom of God, and his righteousness."
- F. John 4:13 and 6:32-35 – Jesus gives living water and is the true "bread" that nourishes us from heaven.
- G. "If you have a sense of need in your soul, if you hunger and thirst after righteousness, this is an evidence that Christ has wrought upon your heart. . . ." Thoughts from the Mount of Blessing, p. 19
- I. **"Will be filled"**

PERSONAL LIFE APPLICATION QUESTIONS

- A. **In what specific ways do my attitudes and actions demonstrate a hunger and thirst after Jesus who is our righteousness?**

- B. **What junk food is blunting my hunger for Jesus who is the true, soul-nourishing bread from heaven?**

- 3. **Matthew 6:7 "Merciful"**
 - A. Matthew 18:21-35
 - B. Being humanly merciful to others is an _____ of the mercy we've each been extended by God through the sacrifice of Christ.
 - C. Story: Attorney, Bob Goff. Founder and CEO of Restore International
 - D. We extend mercy not because someone is deserving, but because God is merciful.
 - E. I Peter 2:9-10

- F. "The merciful are 'partakers of the _____ nature,' and in them the compassionate love of God finds expression." TMB p. 22
"The merciful are those who _____ compassion to the poor, the suffering, and the oppressed." TMB p. 22
- G. **"Obtain mercy"**

PERSONAL LIFE APPLICATION QUESTIONS

- A. **Who are some of the "least of these" Jesus is calling me to extend an outflow of his mercy to; even individuals who may not deserve your mercy?**
 - At work or school: _____
 - Within your church family: _____
 - In your neighborhood: _____
 - Within your family: _____
- B. **What would mercy look like if you extended it?**

4. **Matthew 5:8 "Pure in Heart"**

- A. **"Pure"** means clean. "Blessed is the man whose motives are always entirely unmixed for that man shall see God." William Barclay, The Gospel of Matthew, p. 106

Matthew 5:27-30
- B. **"Heart"** "In the Bible the heart stands for a person's whole _____ state." George Knight, The Abundant Life Bible Amplifier: Matthew, p. 86
- C. **"See God"**
Isaiah 6:5, 6