

HOME GROUPS | As It Is

Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

Matthew 5:5-6

On the side of a mountain in rural Israel, Jesus stands up to tell the story of what it means to be His follower on Earth *as it is* in Heaven. As we walk through the Sermon, we are faced with these questions:

Do you believe the story that this sermon tells?

Do you love the one (Jesus) who is telling it?

Take a moment to reflect on these questions as a group, and then consider these two truths: 1) you must yoke yourself to Christ in order to be meek, and 2) you were made to be satisfied in God. How do these truths confront or comfort you as you think about your meekness and satisfaction?

Meekness is the heart of the King, and the way of the kingdom is truth from your mouth substantiated by quiet in your heart. For Christians there is no way to believe what we believe and not be meek. You cannot be smug or proud if you know it is by God's grace you have been saved. Who do you know that is meek? How can you pursue growth in meekness in regards to your nonessential beliefs (politics, Covid19)?

Those who hunger and thirst for righteousness are those who recognize their greatest satisfaction *is* God. Sin is a distortion of our cravings, and the desire for satisfaction itself is the distortion because we desire satisfaction as if it's God. Happiness is not the goal. God is the point of your life. What messages do you hear that would contradict this? Do you long for righteousness? Do you *want* to want God?

Read through the practice guide together as a group (<u>found here</u>). The practices are a way to become satisfied in God. They help you posture your mind and body to abide in Jesus and access the presence of God. They are exercises that will help you grow in meekness and understand your righteousness is Christ's, not your own. Meekness comes from being with Jesus. As you awake to pray, fast and abide in Jesus, ask God for a hunger and thirst for righteousness and for meekness like Jesus, who is the most meek, the most gentle and the most understanding.