

Rethinking Happiness

Matthew 5:1-12

The Condition of the People – Burdened

The Message of Jesus – Blessed

Characteristics of Really Happy People...

1. The Attitude of Humility

*Blessed are the **poor in spirit**, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. (Mt. 5:3)*

*Blessed are those who **mourn**, for they will be comforted. (Mt. 5:4)*

*Blessed are the **meek**, for they will inherit the earth. (Mt 5:5)*

2. The Appetite for Purity

*Blessed are those who **hunger and thirst for righteousness**, for they will be filled. (Mt. 5:6)*

*Blessed are the **pure in heart**, for they will see God. (Mt. 5:8)*

3. The Ability to Forgive

*Blessed are the **merciful**, for they will be shown mercy. (Mt. 5:7)*

*Blessed are the **peacemakers**, for they will be called sons of God. (Mt. 5:9)*

4. The Approval of God First

*Blessed are those who are **persecuted** because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when **people insult you**, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you. (Mt. 5:10-12)*