

40 Days SERMON ON THE MOUNT  
SMALL GROUP STUDY GUIDE—WEEK ONE

**God's Character and the Believer's Conduct**

What comes to your mind when you think of the words “COUNTER-CULTURE”?  
In the gospel of Matthew, we see Jesus referring over and over again to the “KINGDOM”?  
What is he referring to?

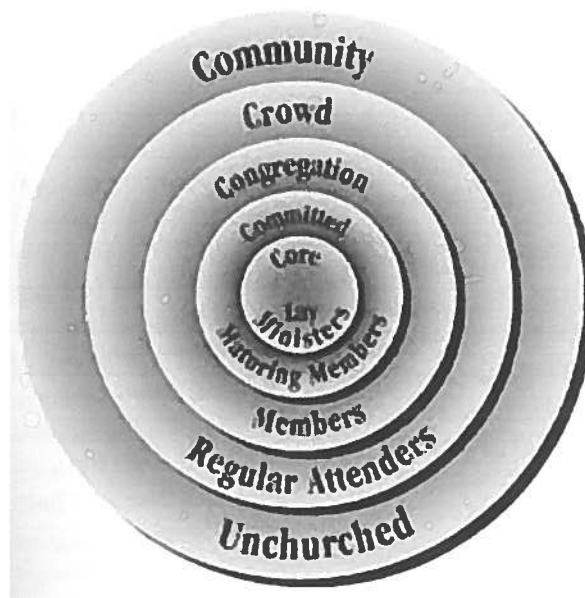
What theme do you see in Matthew 5:3-12?

What does “blessed” mean?

Looking at the beatitudes, what are the qualities that God blesses? How do they match up with the qualities that the world strives to achieve or attain? What are the rewards of each of the quality?

It has been said that Jesus taught about the ‘Be-attitudes’ not the ‘Do-attitudes’. Why do you think many people struggle with battle between getting caught up in ‘DOING’ vs. ‘BEING’?

Jesus continues in the passage and says to His disciples, “YOU ARE THE SALT OF THE EARTH” and “YOU ARE THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD”. How are we able to be these things? (Don’t focus on what you do!)



As Jesus was teaching His disciples, there were many levels of commitment present throughout the crowd. Our desire should be at the centre of his diagram. How do we get there? How do we encourage others to get there?

READ Matthew 5:20. What is the significance of this verse in this time of teaching?

**TIME OF REFLECTION ON DAILY READINGS:**

1. What have your daily readings revealed to you about God?
2. What have the readings revealed to you about who you are?
3. What are the readings encouraging you do to become more like Jesus?