



The Trademark Disciple

MT. 5.1-12

"Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven." Mt. 5.12

Review the Sermon

Read Mt. 5.1-12.

Why is the beginning word of each sentence better translated as "blessed" rather than "happy"? What is the significance of this distinction?

How is the sequence (inward...upward...outward) of the beatitudes important in discipleship? What would be produced if Jesus had reversed the sequence?

Why do you think it is important that Jesus opened his sermon with this description of a trademark (authentic) disciple?

Assess your Life

Are there specific aspects of a trademark disciple that are lacking in your life right now? Why do you think these aspects are missing?

Do you have a healthy sense of your own spiritual poverty before God, or does it bother you that Jesus would describe citizens of the kingdom in this way?



Which of the beatitudes would you say is most preeminent in your life right now?

Are you satisfied with God's gift of righteousness? Or do you find yourself trying to earn points with God through your own efforts?

Apply the Truth

What can be done to ensure a proper attitude of spiritual poverty and the humility that results from it?

How can you become more dependent on God for true righteousness? What part do you play in applying this righteousness in your life?

How can you respond with rejoicing to negative reactions from people for living out this righteousness that comes from God? How will you stay encouraged as a disciple?

Commit this Week

In what way will you commit to becoming more authentic as a disciple of Jesus Christ?

"Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account." Mt. 5.11