

DONELSON
FIRST

BE LIKE
JESUS
SERIES

BOOKLET

Be

like Jesus

Copyright 2021
Jeffrey Dean Smith

WEEK 1: THE CHARACTER OF JESUS

Now when Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him, and he began to teach them. Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Matthew 5:1-10



THE BIG IDEA

The beatitudes are a challenge to live separate from the crowd.

FAMILY FOCUS

In what way(s) do I feel blessed?

Be

like Jesus

AS HIS DISCIPLE:

I am called to live by a much higher standard than the crowd (world).

When I live this way, I will be blessed.

ATTRIBUTES OF A CHURCH STRIVING TO MEET THE NEEDS OF THE CROWD:

Dying to self.



Uniting as one.

WEEK 2: THE POOR IN SPIRIT

Blessed are the poor in spirit,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
Matthew 5:3



THE BIG IDEA

The person poor in spirit is
the person recognizing their
need for more.

FAMILY FOCUS

In what area(s) of my life do I
need to better exercise humility?



Be
like Jesus

TO BE POOR IN SPIRIT IS TO:

1. Be rich in humility.

A lack of humility breeds condemnation of others + a judgmental mindset toward others.

Humility breeds acceptance of others + compassion toward others.

2. Be bankrupt in the flesh.

God does not need me. Though God does not need me, He chooses to use me.
Am I willing to bankrupt my desires, my way, my traditions, my thoughts, my attitude, my _____ to inspire people to know, grow, + go in Jesus?

3. Just let go.

Apart from Jesus, I am nothing. I have nothing. I am poor to the very core.
With Jesus, I am everything. I have everything. I get the kingdom of heaven.

4. Recognize my need for more.

Jesus is the only one who can meet my needs.

WEEK 3: THOSE WHO MOURN

Blessed are those who mourn,
for they will be comforted.
Matthew 5:4



THE BIG IDEA

I can receive comfort because
I know my sin has been paid
for by the great Comforter.

FAMILY FOCUS

How can I use God's Word to help
me better recognize sin in my life?

The word "Be" is written in a large, elegant, white cursive script. It is set against a dark, textured background of purple and blue brushstrokes.

like Jesus

I AM BLESSED WHEN I:

1. Mourn the sins of the crowds.

The crowds - people in need of more.

The crowds are right outside the door. I work with them. I live next to them. I talk to them. I do life with them.

2. Mourn the sins of the unsaved.

Is it my heart to reach those in need who are captive as a prisoner to the darkness?

3. Mourn the sins of my life.

Recognize I am a sinner.

Refuse to be satisfied with my sinful nature.

Repent to God.

Repeat.

WEEK 4: THE MEEK

Blessed are the meek,
for they will inherit the earth.
Matthew 5:5



THE BIG IDEA

The promise of what is to come
is to help me endure what is
before me now.

FAMILY FOCUS

How has God blessed
me + my family?

Be

like Jesus

TO BE MEEK IS TO:

1. Trust in the Lord.
2. Delight in the Lord.
3. Commit my life to the Lord.
4. Be still before the Lord.
5. Exercise restraint as I rely on the Lord.



WEEK 5: THOSE WHO HUNGER + THIRST FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

Matthew 5:6



THE BIG IDEA

Those who hunger + thirst for righteousness possess an incessant appetite for holiness.

FAMILY FOCUS

Why is the Family Focus an important conversation for our family each week?

The word 'Be' is written in a large, white, cursive script font. The background of the entire page is a dark, textured purple and blue with some green brushstrokes.

like Jesus

TO HUNGER + THIRST FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS IS TO:

1. Never lose my appetite to be like Jesus.

How one knows if they have lost their appetite for becoming more like Jesus:

- inconsistent alone time with God.
- ignoring the leading of the Holy Spirit.
- avoiding a change of course when it comes to sin in my life.

2. Never lose my appetite to be like Jesus.

One with a hunger + thirst for righteousness will not have an appetite for holiness while simultaneously having an appetite for sin!

WEEK 6: THE MERCIFUL

Blessed are the merciful,
for they will be shown mercy.
Matthew 5:7



THE BIG IDEA

Mercy is
grace in action.

FAMILY FOCUS

Discuss the concept of mercy.
Share with one another someone
you need to extend mercy.

Be

like Jesus

TO BE MERCIFUL TOWARD OTHERS, I MUST:

1. Remember deeply.

Remembering deeply my once helpless state helps me relate with others that are in need of mercy.

2. Respond correctly.

The correct response is extending the same mercy to others that has been extended to me.

3. Rely intensely.

Forgiveness and mercy extended to us by the grace of God is extended to those around us as we yield our lives to God.



WEEK 7: THE PURE IN HEART

Blessed are the pure in heart,
for they will see God.
Matthew 5:8



THE BIG IDEA

When I am pure in heart, I'll be closer to God than if I choose to live an impure life.

FAMILY FOCUS

How can we help one another to refine our lives to be like Jesus?



Be
like Jesus

TO BE PURE IN HEART IS TO:

1. Realize.

Without God, I can't
With God, I can.

2. Repent.

When I ignore, make excuses for, or continue living in my sin, it's impossible to live in unison with God.

3. Real.

A pure heart is a heart that defies anything to do with deceitfulness or falsehood.

4. Reserved.

This is the standard Jesus set for me: total allegiance reserved only for Him. ⁷

WEEK 8: THE PEACEMAKERS

Blessed are the peacemakers,
for they will be called children of God.
Matthew 5:9



THE BIG IDEA

I am either a peacemaker
or peacebreaker.

CONSIDER THIS

A peacemaker will not always
be peace-achieving.

The word 'Be' is written in a large, white, cursive script font. The background of the entire page is a dark, textured purple and blue with some green and pink brushstrokes.

like Jesus

A PEACEMAKER:

1. Receives Jesus.

To actively portray peace, I have to first receive the one true peace – the Prince of Peace!

2. Shares Jesus.

If we are to be His "children", we are to be peacemakers to the world's peacebreakers by loving + praying for those who hate + curse.

3. Follows Jesus.

Even though the crowd won't always follow in return.

WEEK 9: THOSE WHO ARE PERSECUTED BECAUSE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS

Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Matthew 5:10



**THE
BIG
IDEA**

Jesus before me.

FAMILY FOCUS

Which beatitude has been my favorite to study? Which has been the most challenging to study?

Be

like Jesus

PERSECUTION IS:

1. Pursuing.

Just as I am pursuing righteousness, an unrighteous world is pursuing me. And my enemy Satan is leading the charge.

2. Personal.

It is personal to the persecutor because he/she is of the world. It is personal to the one being persecuted because of a Christ follower's relationship with Jesus.

3. Promissory.

The final breath of the persecuted is secondary to the first breath of eternity.