



## Sermon Discussion Questions

Matthew 5:1-12 // The Happy State

- When do you find yourself the most motivated — when you're told to do what's right, when you're told to not do what's wrong, or when you're given a picture of the kind of life that comes from doing what's right? Why?
- As we begin this series on the Sermon on the Mount, what are you hoping to get out of it? How do you plan to engage with this teaching?
- Pastor Joey said the Beatitudes are not a list of rules for living the Christian life, or a plan for how to get God to bless you. So what are they?
- How do the Beatitudes paint a picture of "flourishing?"
- Pastor Joey said there are two kinds of "blessing" in the Bible. How would you describe the difference? Which kind is meant in the Beatitudes?
- What connection does the Beatitudes have with Psalm 1? How are both describing the conditions of a flourishing life?
- Pastor Joey said that the Beatitudes paint a picture of true human flourishing, lived in relationship with God and in anticipation of the coming kingdom. What picture do they paint? What hope do they give?
- Which of the Beatitudes do you most personally resonate with? Which one describes situations of life that feel to you as the most non-conducive to flourishing?
- How have you experienced "unanticipated flourishing" in the last couple of years?

- How has God grown you in difficult circumstances?
- If, as Jesus says, the “good life” is really suffering while waiting for God to bring his heavenly kingdom back to earth, then why do we work so hard to avoid suffering? What are we missing out on when we do?
- How will you and your community look into the “black gold” that is these Beatitudes? How will you support one another?

