

READ

Matthew 5:3-10

CONSIDER

When an expert in the law approaches Jesus and asks, “which is the greatest commandment?”, Jesus responds by telling him to love God and love others (see Matt 22:36-40).

The call to love God and love others is the guiding framework that helps us understand how to live out the Sermon on the Mount. As we study this series, let the Great Commandment in Matthew 22 shape the way you understand the teachings from the Sermon on the Mount.

This week as we unpack the eight beatitudes, I hope we will see that Jesus calls us to reorient our lives around his kingdom values and to surrender the worldly values that have malformed us in our faith. My prayer for us is that God will give us the posture to hear His Word and that His Spirit will help us reorient our lives to the way of his kingdom.

See you Sunday.

Pastor Tim Sreedharan

PRAY

Blessed are the poor in spirit, blessed are those who mourn, blessed are the meek, blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, blessed are the merciful, blessed are the pure in heart, blessed are the peacemakers, blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness - for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Father, may your kingdom come and your will be done on this earth. May we be a people who value the people you value. May your Spirit help us to allow your kingdom values to reshape the way we live. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

DIVING DEEPER

Week 1

Before we dive in...

Matthew 5:1-12

(The Values of the Kingdom)

READ MATTHEW 22:36-40.

Dr. Martin Lloyd Jones says “the Sermon on the Mount is nothing but a great and grand and perfect elaboration of what our Lord called His ‘new commandment’ (i.e. the Great Commandment).”

The call to love God and love others is the guiding framework that helps us understand how to live out the Sermon on the Mount. As we study this series in 2025 & 2026, let the Great Commandment in Matthew 22 shape the way you understand the teachings from the Sermon on the Mount (SotM).

Questions for the Beatitudes

(Matt 5:1-12)

- **Read v1-2.** Who is the intended audience for the SotM? Why does that matter?
- **Read v11-12.** What does this passage teach us about how we are to view persecution/opposition? (Persecution was to be expected as society opposed the way of Jesus).
- **Read v3 & v10.** What is the kingdom? Why does it matter? (The use of the phrase *kingdom of heaven* is an **inclusio**, which means all 8 beatitudes are about the kingdom of heaven).
- Which one of these 8 “blessed” do you connect with the most?
- Which one is the hardest to live out? Why?
- Overall, what sense do the 8 Beatitudes give you about living out the Great Commandment (ref **Matt 22**)? How does this passage challenge us to love God and others?