

Sermon Discussion Guide
Summer on the Mount – Week 1
The Beatitudes
July 11, 2021



Big Idea

Karma says if you're suffering, it's your fault. Jesus says if you're suffering, I see you, I care, and I want to bless you.



Icebreaker

Have you ever had an “instant karma” moment where you immediately felt the consequences of a reckless decision?



Discussion Questions

1. Read **Matthew 5:1-12**. (We read the version in Luke 6:20-26 this Sunday, which you're welcome to review as well.) The Beatitudes contain several “blessed are” statements. Have you seen the truth of any of these? What are some of the blessings you have in your life?
2. Read **John 9:1-2**. Have you wrestled with the idea that you deserve the pain and hardships in your life? Why do we get hung up on wanting to know the reason for our suffering?
3. The blind man likely felt invisible or even cursed because of his lifelong affliction. Is that a feeling you can relate to? How are Christians called to act toward the “invisible” members of society?
4. Read **John 9:3, 6-7**. Have you experienced healing in your life (physical, mental, emotional)? Is there healing you've prayed for but haven't received? How have you processed that?
5. Focus on **John 9:3**. Whether the healing comes or not, our stories can be used to tell a testimony of God's goodness. Does that encourage you or frustrate you? What's your story?



Concluding Questions

Read **Colossians 1:21-22**. Karma says we get what we deserve, but the Gospel says we get what Jesus deserves. What brokenness in your life do you need to trust God with? How can you allow God to use it to bless you rather than hinder you? How can it be a blessing to others as well?



Application

1. What do you think the Holy Spirit may be saying to you through this sermon and our discussion?
2. What is something God wants you to do now?
3. Beyond prayer for each other, is there a way we can help each other apply these lessons?



Prayer

Possible prayer topics for this week:

- Gratefulness for blessings
- Surrendering the “why”
- Invisible and marginalized people
- Finding and sharing the story in our brokenness