

## Life Church Message 2011-01-23 - The Blessings (Part 2)

- **The Blessings (Part 2)**

Pastor Eva - Sunday January 23, 2011

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- **Introduction**

- **Bible Reading:**

- OT Timeline:
- OT Contemporary Books:

- **Life Group Material**

- **Life Group Word Material**

These are sample discussion questions / topics. Your life group leaders may choose to adjust these questions, substitute new ones, or spend the Word section of the meeting in a different way altogether.

Scripture taken from the [HOLY BIBLE, NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION \(NIV\)](#)

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- **Matthew 5:1-12 (New International Version, ©2010)**

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. He said: "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. "Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

- **Proverbs 29:7 (New International Version, ©2010)**

The righteous care about justice for the poor, but the wicked have no such concern.

- **Discussion Questions:**

- Is there a justice issue that you care about? Do you think God wants to use you in this area? Discuss.
- Describe ways that you can trust God with this issue. Are you tempted to operate in your own strength and/or make the poor an idol? Discuss.

- **Matthew 18:21-35 (New International Version, ©2010)**

Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, "Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times?" Jesus answered, "I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times. "Therefore, the kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. As he began the settlement, a man who owed him ten thousand bags of gold was brought to him. Since he was not able to pay, the master ordered that he and his wife and his children and all that he had be sold to repay the debt. "At this the servant fell on his knees before him. 'Be patient with me,' he begged, 'and I will pay back everything.' The servant's master took pity on him, canceled the debt and let him go. "But when that servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred silver coins. He grabbed him and began to choke him. 'Pay back what you owe me!' he demanded. "His fellow servant fell to his knees and begged him, 'Be patient with me, and I will pay it back. But he refused. Instead, he went off and had the man thrown into prison until he could pay the debt. When the other servants saw what had happened, they were outraged and went and told their master everything that had happened. "Then the master called the servant in. 'You wicked servant,' he said, 'I canceled all that debt of yours because you begged me to. Shouldn't you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?' In anger his master handed him over to the jailers to be tortured, until he should pay back all he owed. "This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

- **Discussion Questions:**

- How has mercy been extended to you?
- What lessons have you learned from the "Parable of the Unmerciful Servant" in Matthew 18:21-35?

- **Psalms 51:10 (New International Version, ©2010)**

Create in me a pure heart, O God,  
and renew a steadfast spirit within me.

- **Scripture Reference: 1 John 1:9 (New International Version, ©2010)**

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

- **Discussion Questions:**

- Do you make a practice of going to God to confess your sins? Discuss.
- Have you experienced God's cleansing in your heart? Describe.

- **Matthew 5:1-12 (New International Version, ©2010)**

- **Discussion Questions:**

- Discuss the challenges of being a peacemaker. Are you willing to take on this role?  
Have you experienced people insulting you, persecuting you or

falsely saying all kinds of evil against you because of Christ? Encourage and pray for one another in this area.

- **Life Group Witnessing Activities**

- **1 Peter 3:15-16**

But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect, keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander.

- **Questions & Answers**

We will have a Question and Answer session on Sunday February 6, 2011. Please write down any questions you may have.

We're especially interested in questions about the following:

- The sermons of the past 3 months.
- The scriptures we've taught from over the past 3 months.
- General Bible questions.

- **Submit Your Questions by January 31, 2011:**

- In writing with the offering on Sunday
- Via email to [life@lifechurchboston.org](mailto:life@lifechurchboston.org)