



June 30

Passage: Matthew 5:1-20

Today we find ourselves in the most famous sermon ever preached! Take a moment and try to think of famous sermons. A few that come to mind are "Sinners in the hands of an angry God," "The Weight of Glory," or "The Eternal name." Well the Sermon on the Mount trumps all of those sermons as the most famous sermon ever given, preached by the Lord himself.

So, as we begin, pray. Pray the Lord would grow you through the beginning of the Sermon on the Mount.

**READ & DIG.** Read Matthew 5:1-20 (underline anything that sticks out to you)

## BLESSED

Look at all the times the word "blessed" appears in these twenty verses. It's astonishing! Don't stop at the word "blessed," but look at what these individuals are blessed with! Things like the kingdom of heaven, comfort, mercy, seeing God, and inheriting the earth. An important thing to remember is that this part of the Sermon on the Mount is not a formula to get God to like you or give you the things you want. Rather, it is a picture of what it's like for God's people to live in light of what he has already done in them.

## SALT & LIGHT

I bet this sounds familiar if you listen to Pastor Stephen on Sundays. He does such a wonderful job of reminding us of what Jesus taught his followers. Verses 13-16 is where he finds the inspiration to share that encouragement. Jesus teaches that in order to live a life transformed by the gospel, each Christian is called to a life that is different than the status quo. Salt was and is used to preserve and season different things. So too with followers of Christ, you are called to seek influence the world for good. Light brings life and brightness everywhere it goes. So too with Christians, they have the light of life in them because of what Christ has done in their hearts.

## JESUS & THE LAW

A really popular statement that you may hear every now and then is "Jesus came to abolish the law." I hate to be the bearer of bad news, but that couldn't be further from the truth. Jesus came to fulfill all the law! This is vitally important for understanding who he is and what he came to do. Jesus had to fulfill the law of God perfectly for a few reasons. One is that we couldn't do it. Jesus kept every part of the law, even the seemingly insignificant parts or the portions that felt impossible to the Israelites. Another reason he came to keep the law and not abolish it is because the law had to be kept perfectly. In order for God to be holy and just, he had to hold the standard of the law with no exception. Jesus was the only person

## Apply & GO

- Remember and live in light of what Christ has done for you. You are blessed!
- Be salt and light!
- Look to Jesus as the author and finisher of your faith. The one who perfectly kept the law for you!