

“Making Disciples Who Make Disciples, Part 1:

Blessings & Woes”

Sermon Notes

- **Disciple-making involves seeing this world upside down, knowing that one day Jesus will turn things right side up**

+A brief note on the importance of Luke 6:17-19...

**In the context of a personal discipling relationship, disciples who make disciples are quick to address...*

1. ...four clear _____ of God’s _____ (vv.20-23)

2. ...four genuine _____ for legitimate _____
(vv.24-26)

**Next Week: Luke 6:27-36 - “Making Disciples Who Make Disciples, Part 2:
*Love Your Enemies”***

Community Group Study Guide

For the Week of July 2nd – 8th

Please read Luke 6:17-26.

1. A great crowd was with Jesus (verse 17) but "he lifted up his eyes on his disciples" when he spoke the beatitudes (verse 20).
 - a. Do the beatitudes apply to the disciples only, or to the crowd as well? Why?
 - b. If the beatitudes are relevant to the disciples only, why did he speak them when in the presence of a large crowd, rather than privately to the disciples?
 - c. If the beatitudes are relevant to the crowd, why does Luke mention that Jesus lifted up his eyes on the disciples while speaking? (See also verse 23)

2. What does Jesus mean when he speaks of being "blessed"?
 - a. Do you think that verses 20-22 are words of encouragement? Please explain.
 - b. Do you think that verses 20-22 are requirements to enter the kingdom of God? Please explain.

3. Compare verse 20 with Matthew 5:3.
 - a. Is Luke referring to being poor in spirit when he speaks of the poor here? Please explain.
 - b. Is Luke speaking of material poverty? (See James 2:5) Please explain.
 - c. David wrote Psalm 40:17, Psalm 86:1, and Psalm 109:22. In what sense was David poor?
 - d. Do you have to be materially poor to be poor in spirit?
 - e. Are all materially poor people poor in spirit?

4. Compare verse 21 with Matthew 5:6
 - a. Is Luke speaking of physical hunger? Why or why not?
 - b. Does this include the hunger and thirst for righteousness? Please explain.
 - c. If Luke is speaking of physical hunger, how does a future promise of abundant food make that a blessing?

5. Does it matter why those who weep in verse 21 are weeping? Please explain.
 - a. Do you think that this refers to those who weep at the state of the fallen world? Why or why not?

- b. Do you think that this refers to those who weep at their sin, imperfections and shortcomings? Why or why not?
 - c. Do you think that this refers to those who weep due to rejection, ridicule or loss? Why or why not?
 - d. Do you think that this refers to those who weep due to sympathy for the suffering of others? Why or why not?
 - e. Do you think that this refers to those who weep due to being persecuted for the sake of Jesus? Why or why not?
 - g. What about those who weep for less admirable reasons?
6. Compare verse 22 with verses 20-21.
- a. Do the conditions in verse 22 somehow lead to the states in verses 20-21. If so, how?
 - b. What were the results of being excluded from the community in the first century?
 - c. What does it mean to have your name spurned as evil?
 - d. Does "your name" refer to the name of an individual or the name of the group (Christians / followers of Jesus)? Please explain.
7. What does the fate of the blessed in verse 22 have to do with the fate of the prophets?
- a. How is being persecuted like the prophets a blessing?
 - b. Is the persecution of the prophets an explanation for the fate of the blessed in verse 22?
 - c. Do you think that the Jews in the first century expected that the followers of the Messiah would be persecuted? Why or why not?
8. The adjectives used in verses 24-26 are the precise opposites of those describing the blessed in verses 20-22.
- a. Who is Jesus talking to in verses 24-26? The disciples? An imaginary audience? The crowd?
 - b. Does "woe to you" indicate a threat of judgment or an expression of pity? Please explain.
 - c. Do you think Jesus is referring to material food and riches in verses 24-25 or to a spiritual reality? Please explain.
 - d. What effect do riches have on your orientation to God and neighbor?
 - c. What have the rich lost if they have spent their riches on material comforts?
9. In verse 25, Jesus pronounces woe on those who are laughing.
- a. Are Christians supposed to be unhappy? Please explain.
 - b. Is Jesus talking about a specific kind of laughter in verse 25? If so, what is the character of laughter that leads to woe?

c. What will happen that will lead to future mourning and weeping?

10. What is wrong with having others speak well of you?

a. What is the price of popularity?

b. What sort of prophets did people speak well of? (See Jeremiah 23:16-17; Micah 2:11)