

The Good News Life
Luke 6:20-36
Life Group Questions For the Week of 11.15.09

Setting the stage:

1. Why do you think God is especially concerned about the poor and needy? What does that mean for us who are relatively rich (by global and historic standards)?

Searching the Word:

2. Compare the blessings in this passage (*verses 20-23*) with the blessings listed in Matthew's version of the Beatitudes (*Matthew 5:1-12*). How are they the same? How are they different? Why might there be a different emphasis?

3. Compare the woes in this passage (*verses 24-26*) with *Isaiah 65:13-14*, written earlier to God's own people who had forsaken and forgotten Him (*Isaiah 65:11-12*). How are Isaiah's words similar to Jesus' words? How are they different? Do you think Jesus had these words from Isaiah in mind?

4. Starting with *verse 27*, Jesus directs His comments to those who "hear" Him. Why is this important? How do we know if we are "hearers" (see *Luke 6:47-48, James 1:22-25*). How does this relate to our being blessed?

5. Jesus' words (*verses 27-30*) indicate that there are times when we should be willing to be mistreated. Is this consistent with other New Testament teachings? Refer to these passages: *I Cor. 6:7-8; II Cor. 12:10; Philippians 1:15-18a; James 1:9-12, 2:5-8*. When might this approach not be best? Is there a time to not "turn the other cheek"?

6. Have you ever known someone who generally seemed to live out the golden rule (*verse 31*)? What do you remember most about them? Were they taken advantage of a lot? What did you learn from them?

7. When do we look most like the Father (*verses 35-36*)? What characteristic is most prominent when we are like Him?

Living the truth:

8. What makes it possible for us to live in the manner Jesus describes? What is the key attitude or approach to life that makes the difference? Refer to *Luke 12:32-34* for added insight. With this in mind, are you living "The Good News Life"?