

Rock Point Church Bill Bush | 04.28.2024

BIG IDEA | Who we are determines what we do.

Matthew 5:1-12 (NLT)

- ¹ One day as he saw the crowds gathering, Jesus went up on the mountainside and sat down. His disciples gathered around him, ² and he began to teach them.
- ³ "God blesses those who are poor and realize their need for him, for the Kingdom of Heaven is theirs.
- ⁴ God blesses those who mourn, for they will be comforted.
- ⁵ God blesses those who are humble, for they will inherit the whole earth.
- ⁶ God blesses those who hunger and thirst for justice, for they will be satisfied.
- ⁷ God blesses those who are merciful, for they will be shown mercy.
- 8 God blesses those whose hearts are pure, for they will see God.
- ⁹ God blesses those who work for peace, for they will be called the children of God.
- ¹⁰ God blesses those who are persecuted for doing right, for the Kingdom of Heaven is theirs.

¹¹ "God blesses you when people mock you and persecute you and lie about you and say all sorts of evil things against you because you are my followers. ¹² Be happy about it! Be very glad! For a great reward awaits you in heaven. And remember, the ancient prophets were persecuted in the same way.

THE PERSON: Who I am to be.

Blessed is the person who in life sees that the heart of the matter is a matter of the heart!

The Beatitudes:

- · Poor and realize their need for Him
- Mourn
- · Humble
- · Hunger and thirst

Blessed are the people who realize they NEED God, who face their brokenness, know they are loved, and who are willing to be under God's authority.

- Merciful
- · Pure in heart

Heart Test - Look at your...

- Anxieties What do I worry about?
- Ambitions What am I always trying to get?
- Activities What would please Jesus?

- Work for peace
 We point people to Jesus. We don't point Jesus at people.
- · Persecuted for doing right

The Purpose: What I am to do. Be salt and light!

Matthew 5:13-16 (NLT)

¹³ "You are the salt of the earth. But what good is salt if it has lost its flavor? Can you make it salty again? It will be thrown out and trampled underfoot as worthless.

¹⁴ "You are the light of the world—like a city on a hilltop that cannot be hidden. ¹⁵ No one lights a lamp and then puts it under a basket. Instead, a lamp is placed on a stand, where it gives light to everyone in the house. ¹⁶ In the same way, let your good deeds shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father.

Salt speaks of inward character that influences a decaying world. Light speaks of the outward testimony of good works that points to God.