**Sermon Series** 

# The Beatitudes

Being the Body of Christ



### **Empty & Longing**



"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 hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be satisfied."

Matthew 5:3-6 (NIV)

"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."

Matthew 5:7-9 (NIV)



"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."

Matthew 5:10-12 (NIV)

## "Blessed are" (blessing)

# makarios - recognition of someone's status or honour by the community

See: "How Honorable! How Shameful" by KC Hanson

# Honour: a claim to status affirmed by the community; how you are perceived

- received on basis of identity
- achieved on basis of competition
- determined your treatment at all times
- a limited commodity
- traits: aggression, boldness, authority

The Beatitudes "are undoing the shame which disciples suffered on his behalf....Jesus revalues what has been disvalued; he honours what has been shamed"

-Jerome Neyrey in Honour and Shame in Matthew

#### The Beatitudes are a new honour code.

- How honourable are those who lack honour
- Honour is replenished as it is poured out
- Honour is not received by shaming others
- We follow Jesus, who embraced social shame

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