## Minster Bethel Congregational Church (MBCC)

07/02/2021 — The Beatitudes

### What's our (be)-attitude?



Today is our second fortnightly zoom "Church & Chat"

This will be a short church reflection with a hymn, reading, (children's activity), prayer, "thought for the week" and then a time to chat.

If you need help to join please ask any deacon

For the word of the LORD is right and true; he is faithful in all he does. The LORD loves righteousness and justice; the earth is full of his unfailing love.

Psalm 33:4-5

#### Good morning and welcome to this week's thoughts.

#### Our hymn for today is by Graham Kendrick "Blessed are the humble in spirit"

Blessed are the Humble - Graham Kendrick - YouTube

Blessed are the humble in spirit
For theirs is the Kingdom of heaven.
And blessed are the mourners
They will find comfort.
And blessed are the lowly,
They shall reign
On the earth.

And blessed are those who hunger, Who thirst for justice, For surely you'll fill them completely. And those who show mercy Will be shown mercy. And blessed are the pure hearts, They'll see God, They'll see God.

And blessed are peacemakers, Called the sons of God Blessed are those oppressed For righteousness' sake For theirs shall be Shall always be Yes, theirs shall be Heaven's kingdom Oh how you bless us Lord! Blessing upon blessing Lord! Making us a blessing, A blessing for the world

Oh how you bless us Lord! Blessing upon blessing Lord! Making us a blessing, A blessing for the world

#### The reading today is Matthew 5: 1-12

Matthew 5:1-12 NIVUK - Introduction to the Sermon on the Mount - Bible Gateway



#### **Our Attitude to Happiness**



The world feels up-side-down at present, everything seems different and that feels a little uncomfortable.

Have you ever, possibly when you were a little younger, successfully stood on your head in a headstand just for fun? Isn't it odd how things look a bit different when you're upside down?

Perhaps you have a snow globe in your home or have seen one in a shop or on a film. It is a clear ball that has a scene inside. It may be a Christmas scene with a snowman, Christmas tree or reindeer; or it may be set like a village with trees and shops. Whatever the scene, the fun of a snow globe happens when you turn it upside down. Snow begins to fall and cover the objects in the globe. Everything inside the globe looks a bit different after it has been turned upside down.



We learn something about God's kingdom, in heaven and here on earth when ideas are turned upside down. We may think that the happiest people are those who win, are strong, are rich, do well, and have everything they want.

Jesus taught his disciples that this is not so. In God's kingdom these ideas are turned upside down. He said those who are discouraged and sad; who struggle and suffer; who are humble, kind, and try to do the right thing, will be blessed.

This applies to all of us now. Everything is not always the way we wish it to be. We may feel sad and discouraged because of something what is happening around us. We may experience difficult situations and struggle to do or know what is right.

However, Jesus in his sermon on the mount, teaches us that when this happens we will be comforted and blessed. This lesson gives us encouragement – cheers us on as we feel "poor in spirit." Jesus says, "Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in heaven."

#### Our second Hymn is "Count Your Blessings"

COUNT YOUR BLESSINGS NAME THEM ONE BY ONE w/ LYRICS by: VARIOUS ARTIST - YouTube

When upon life's billows you are tempest-tossed, When you are discouraged, thinking all is lost, Count your many blessings; name them one by one, And it will surprise you what the Lord has done.

Count your blessings;

Name them one by one.

Count your blessings;

See what God hath done.

Count your blessings;

Name them one by one.

Count your many blessings;

See what God hath done.

Are you ever burdened with a load of care?

Does the cross seem heavy you are called to bear?

Count your many blessings; ev'ry doubt will fly,

And you will be singing as the days go by.

When you look at others with their lands and gold, Think that Christ has promised you his wealth untold. Count your many blessings; money cannot buy Your reward in heaven nor your home on high.

So amid the conflict, whether great or small, Do not be discouraged; God is over all. Count your many blessings; angels will attend, Help and comfort give you to your journey's end.

#### Today's Pray:

Dear God,

Thank you for providing help and hope.

Help us remember that you are near.

And help us to count on you for our peace and happiness.

Let us seek what truly matters.

So we can

Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, and receive your great reward in heaven.

Amen

#### The Beatitudes

-Matthew 5

# Beatitude Reflections

You will need something extra to solve this puzzle. Hold your puzzle up in front of a mirror to read its reflection. Doing this will turn the backwards print around.

Then draw lines to connect each Beatitude beginning with its reflected ending. Need help? Check Motthew 5:1-12.





