

FOLLOWING THE PATH OF JESUS

A Harmony Of the Gospels

A Daily Devotional Study Guide - Book 1



“Missing the Point”

Study: John 5:37-47

Reading: II Timothy 2:1-26

Memory: Psalm 51:16

I started buying and selling things on ebay in 1998 and have sold over 15,000 items. Some of those transactions occurred when it was my full time business and others were just for a little extra income. Most of my experiences with selling items have been pleasant, but occasionally I run into a buyer who is not pleasant to deal with. When I experience an issue with a buyer it is often because they really didn't know what they were doing and didn't read the full listing. For instance, I was selling an item that was described as an “open box store return,” but the buyer was convinced that the item she was buying from me would be brand new in a sealed box. She thought she was getting a great deal on a new one when she bought mine, but what she failed to do was read the whole description. If she did read it, she completely missed it. She was disappointed. I then had to spend a great deal of time trying to work out the situation with her, but she was not very pleasant to work with.

Today, we are going to see how many of us can miss the point and not really understand what God has to say. We can read something or hear something that causes us to think one way, though sometimes that way is not correct. We will see the importance of being open minded when it comes to the study of the Word of God.

What Does the Bible Say?

Not only had John bore witness that Jesus was the Christ, but God Himself bore witness to the people about who Jesus was. God did not verbally speak to the Jews, but He had spoken to them through His Word. His Word declared who Jesus was going to be and the proofs that would be evident in the Messiah, yet they chose not to see it. Though they claimed to know the Scriptures, they were much more knowledgeable about all of their man-made regulations about Scripture than they were about Scripture itself. The eternal life that the religious leaders were seeking would not be found because life could only be found in the Son, but they chose to reject the Son (vs 37-40).

Though Jesus came unto His own people, the Jews, many rejected that He was the Messiah. The reason that they did not glorify Jesus as God was because they really didn't know God and didn't have the love of God in their hearts. Jesus was not attempting to bring glory to Himself, but wanted to bring glory to the Father. Yet, they did not believe in Jesus. They were so deceived that they would have followed someone that wasn't from God who desired to bring glory to himself rather than glory to the Father (vs 41-44).

Jesus did not come to be the judge, though He ultimately will judge, but came to be the deliverer. The one who would accuse the religious leaders of not following God would be Moses. Moses was highly respected and revered by the religious leaders and they claimed to be following the law of Moses, but in reality they were following their own set of guidelines. If they had believed in Moses, they would have not had a problem believing in Jesus because they would have seen that He was living in accordance to the law of Moses and was a fulfillment of the law of Moses (vs 45-47).

How Does this Apply to Me?

Do you recognize the obvious in your life or do you completely miss it? Are you so focused on your plans and ideas that you miss what God really wants for you? It is so easy to claim that you trust in God and say that you believe in Him, but it is another thing to actually live like you believe Him. The Pharisees claimed to know the Scripture and some of them did, but they knew it through their skewed view of it and not through God's view. You are human just as the Pharisees were and it is very easy to get so consumed with thinking that your version of religion is the right way that you overlook what God really is like and what He is really saying. To overcome this, you need to let your mind be continually soft and pliable as you read His Word.

Suggestions for Prayer

- * *Thank God for revealing Himself in His Word.*
- * *Ask God to help you not to be deceived as the Pharisees were.*
- * *Praise God for being an accessible God.*

Thought for the day

Who sent Jesus into the world (vs 37)?

How did the Father give witness about the Son (vs 37)?

Why did the religious leaders miss the witness of God (vs 37)?

What are ways that you can miss what God is trying to say?

What did Jesus say the religious leaders did not have (vs 38)? Why did he say this?

What did they search the Scriptures for (vs 39)?

What was one of the main purposes of the Old Testament (vs 39)?

What did they refuse to do (vs 39)?

What did they not have because they refused to accept Jesus (vs 40)?

What do you think Jesus meant in verse 41?

What was clear to Jesus (vs 42)?

How can you know if you have the love of God in you?

What did the Jews do even though Jesus was sent by the Father (vs 43)?

What did Jesus say they would do (vs 44)? What point was Jesus making?

Who did Jesus say would be their accuser when they stood before God (vs 45)? Why do you think He said this?

How had they set their hope on Moses (vs 45)?

What would the people have done if they had truly believed Moses (vs 46)?

What question did Jesus ask in verse 47?

How can you be like the religious leaders in your beliefs?

“Sabbath Was Made for Man”

Study: Matthew 12:8, Mark 2:23-28, Luke 6:1-5

Reading: I Samuel 21:1-6, Galatians 4:8-11

Memory: Psalm 51:16

As I look back at some of the things I said and did while I was in college, I just have to chuckle. Growing up in an atmosphere that seemed to me to be overly concerned about outward actions and personal preference caused me to often be the same way when I became a leader. The reason I chuckle about this today is because I used to look down on people who do some of the same things I do and really enjoy today. This is because I used to think it was sin until I began to study what the Bible really says. It was the truth of God that helped me see the difference between men’s guidelines and God’s principles.

Today, we are going to see how the religious leaders attempted to rebuke Jesus, only to be rebuked themselves for their great misunderstanding of the Law.

What Does the Bible Say?

It appears that after the feast was over that Jesus traveled back to the region of Galilee. On one of the Sabbath days, He and the disciples were walking through the grain fields, and the disciples began to pick some heads of grain to eat. In Bible days there were several paths that would go right through or next to fields and it was customary to allow those traveling to take a little bit for themselves to snack on for their journey (Matthew 12:1, Mark 2:23, Luke 6:1).

The Pharisees saw what they were doing and began to accuse His disciples of breaking the law on the Sabbath. God had designed the Sabbath day to be a day of rest and had ordered that no food preparation be done on the Sabbath, but He didn’t go into great detail about what they could or couldn’t do on the Sabbath. Over the few hundred years prior to this, the rabbis had come up with a whole list of guidelines about what could and couldn’t be done on the Sabbath. They were masters at taking God’s original commands and adding their own interpretation to it and forcing others to follow their opinions as if they were God’s law (Matthew 12:2, Mark 2:24, Luke 6:2).

Jesus didn’t directly tell them they were wrong, but used an illustration

from the Old Testament. He reminded them about what David did when he was on the run from Saul. David and his men were very hungry and went to the tabernacle where he knew there would be some food. Abiathar the priest gave David the bread that would have been on the Table of Shewbread and was to be reserved for only the priests to eat. This was not done in a defiant way by David or Abiathar but was somewhat a matter of life and death. David was never rebuked for this, though it was against the law (Matthew 12:3-4, Mark 2:25-26, Luke 6:3-4).

Jesus also reminded them that the priests who serve in the temple are doing a great deal of work on the Sabbath day and the work they did was ordained by God. Jesus then described how He was greater than the temple and instead of trying to pick Him apart and find fault with Him, they should have been begging at His feet for mercy. The religious leaders were so focused on outward religion and offering outward sacrifices that they missed the inward heart that God desired (Matthew 12:6-7).

The point that Jesus was attempting to make was that instructions about the Sabbath were not given to control man, but to be a help to man. Jesus was the “Lord of the Sabbath.” He was the one who created the day and knew very well the purpose of the day, The day was made because God knew that man needed a day to rest and worship. The religious leaders had made the day and the rules surrounding it to become more important than the purpose of the day itself (Matthew 12:8, Mark 2:27-28, Luke 6:5)

How Does this Apply to Me?

How “picky” are you when it comes to others worshiping God the same way you do? Do you tend to judge others or look down on them if they have different choices of music or styles of praise than you do? How about their choice of clothing? Do you look down on others because their actions are different than yours? It is easy to label things that you don’t like as “sin” just because you don’t like them. This does not mean that you should compromise biblical principles, but you do need to remember that Jesus spent much more time rebuking the religious leaders for adding to the law than He did for others who failed to follow it. If God has directed you to do things a certain way based on your personality or convictions, you must hold to that, but make sure that you don’t cast judgement upon others for choosing to live differently than you do. This doesn’t mean that you should cast off all rules or not have any personal convictions, but it simply means that if it is not a direct command of God’s Word then it is a personal preference or choice that is between a person and God.

Mark 2:23-28

What was Jesus doing on the Sabbath day (vs 23)?

What was the importance of the Sabbath day?

What did the disciples do while they were walking through the fields (vs 23)?

What did the Pharisees accuse the disciples of (vs 24)?

Why did the Pharisees think it was wrong?

Who did Jesus make reference to (vs 25)?

How would the religious leaders have viewed David?

What situation had David found himself in (vs 25)?

Where did David go to get some food (vs 26)?

What did he eat and share with others (vs 26)?

Why was this against the law (vs 26)?

Why do you think God did not rebuke David for this action?

What did Jesus say the Sabbath was made for (vs 27)?

What do you think He meant by this?

Why do you think Jesus said man was not made for the Sabbath (vs 27)?

How was this completely different than what the religious leaders were teaching?

What are ways that you can let rules become more important than the purpose for the rules?

What did Jesus declare about Himself (vs 28)? What do you think He meant?

“The Law of Love”

Study: Matthew 12:9-14, Mark 3:1-6, Luke 6:6-11

Reading: Matthew 22:34-40, Titus 1:5-11

Memory: Psalm 51:16

One of the illustrations we used in our parenting class had to do with children running around at church. We go over the importance of teaching our children the reason why we give rules like “Don’t run in the church building.” It is important for children to understand that they could trip an elderly person or could run into something and cause it to break. Running around in a church building could be dangerous to the child and to others. Understanding a reason why also helps children understand that it would be okay to run in church if there was an emergency or even if they were there by themselves.

Today, we are going to see how Jesus tried to teach the importance of the law of love to those who were listening.

What Does the Bible Say?

Matthew made it sound like the previous events and the one that is about to take place happened on the same day, but Luke described how it happened on another Sabbath day. As we have seen already, the religious leaders were consumed with controlling what people did on the Sabbath day and they were now watching every move of Jesus in an attempt to accuse Him of doing wrong. They didn’t need to look far for this violation of their rules because just then Jesus noticed a man with a withered hand and He asked the man to come to Him. As the man did, Jesus knew the religious leaders were watching and ready to accuse Him of sinning. Before they could accuse Him, He stated the question that they were thinking and that some of them had probably said to others around them. The question that was to be answered was, “Is it lawful to heal a man on the Sabbath day?”

Jesus expounded on this question by asking if they thought they should allow a person who was hurt to die on the Sabbath day instead of breaking their rules in order to help spare that person’s life. He also asked them what they would do if they had a sheep that had fallen into a pit. He knew that almost every religious leader would excuse themselves from breaking their rules in order to rescue their animal. Jesus then told the man to stretch

out his hand and the man's hand was healed.

Two opposite emotional responses were recorded as a result of this healing. Jesus was grieved and angry over the complete disregard for people that the religious leaders expressed and the great hypocrisy that was so much a part of the religious culture. The emotion expressed by the Pharisees was also anger, but it was anger of a different sort. Their anger was directed at Jesus for publicly humiliating them and breaking their rules that they had put in place in order to help control the people under them. They were now losing their authority because Jesus was setting the people free from their bondage to the Law. This angered them enough that they became more serious about their plans to kill Jesus and remove Him from the scene.

How Does this Apply to Me?

Do you find yourself keeping the form and function of some religious event or activity and holding that as more important than the people involved. You can clearly see the error of the religious leaders as you read through the passage today, but if you were in the Synagogue that day, you would have had a difficult time discerning what was right. After all, the rules and regulations of the religious leaders were drilled into the minds of children from birth and that is all they knew. The main problem with this was that their rules trumped their love for people. Jesus wanted all to see that love for others was more important than keeping a certain set of rules. If their hearts were ruled by love and compassion, much of the Law would not be needed to help control and curb their behavior. The same principle still exists today. Though we are not under the law, it is easy to follow a set of rules, written or unwritten, that sometimes trumps our need to love. No, rules are not bad and often are established for good, just as the law was, but rules shouldn't be the dominant reason that we do or don't do something. The law of love should be the rule that you live by each day and should trump all other rules. Some people don't like this thought because they think that this will lead to a type of chaos, but when a person is really living with unselfish love for others at the center of all they do, there will be little need for extra rules and regulations.

Thought for the day

Luke 6:6-11

What did Jesus do on the Sabbath (vs 6)?

Why do you think it is important to realize that Jesus faithfully went to the synagogue on the Sabbath?

What problem did one of the attendees have (vs 6)?

What were the scribes and Pharisees doing (vs 7)?

What are ways that you can become like these religious leaders and watch for other people to make mistakes so you can judge them?

What did Jesus know (vs 8)?

Why can you be worried when you realize Jesus knows your thoughts?

How can you be comforted when you realize Jesus knows your thoughts?

What did Jesus tell the man to do in response to the thoughts of the religious leaders (vs 8)?

What question did Jesus ask (vs 9)?

Why would this have been a hard question to answer?

What point do you think Jesus was making?

Why is it often easier to focus on following all the rules than it is to care about the well being of individuals?

What did Jesus do before He healed the man (vs 10)?

What happened when the man obeyed Jesus and stretched out his hand?

What was the response of the religious leaders (vs 11)?

What did they start discussing (vs 11)?

What lesson can you learn from today's study?

“Investing in Others”

Study: Matthew 12:15-21, Mark 3:7-19, Luke 6:12-16

Reading: II Timothy 2:1-7, Titus 1:5-16

Memory: Psalm 51:16

What Does the Bible Say?

Knowing that the anger was rising towards Him among the religious leaders, Jesus moved on to a different place along the Sea of Galilee, and the crowds of people who were coming to Him continued to grow wherever He went. Jesus spent a great deal of time teaching and healing people who had come from all over the region. He wasn't just a local phenomenon anymore, but his fame continued to spread even though He told those who He had healed not to tell anyone what He had done. The fact that people were coming from more than just the nation of Israel to hear Him was a fulfillment of the prophecy given in Isaiah 42:1-4. This described how the Messiah would not just be a light to the Jews but would also reach the Gentiles. His theme was not war or violence, but it was hope that all men could have through the peace of God that He was preaching about (Matthew 12:15-21, Mark 3:7-8).

Since He was along the Sea of Galilee, Jesus told the disciples to have a boat ready for Him so He would be able to get away from the crowd if He needed to. The people continued to crowd Jesus because they realized that if they just touched Him they might have a chance to be healed. You could imagine what type of atmosphere this would create around Jesus with the sick and hurting trampling over each other just to be able to touch Jesus in hopes of being healed (Mark 3:9-10).

Many people who had come to Jesus were also filled with demons, but whenever a person possessed by a demon saw Jesus, they would bow down before Jesus and declare that He was the Son of God. The demons knew what most of the people couldn't understand and gave testimony to who Jesus really was. Jesus would rebuke these demons because He didn't want the forces of evil to praise Him and thus possibly turning some people away. This indicates once again the incredible power that Jesus had over the demons (Mark 3:11-12).

The narrative then moves ahead to Jesus traveling up to a mountain to pray. The word “mountain” might give you the wrong understanding if you haven't visited Israel. The Sea of Galilee wasn't really a sea, but was a

large lake surrounded by several hills. It was in one of these hills that Jesus went to pray. Though we are not told specifically, Jesus probably did this early in the morning to avoid being seen by the crowds. He went away at this time to specifically ask God who He should choose to be his apostles. There were many people who had followed Him up to this point, but He wanted to have a small group of men that He could purposely invest His life into and prepare them for His departure. Out of those who had been following Him, He chose twelve specific men to be His apostles (Mark 3:13-19, Luke 6:12-16).

How Does this Apply to Me?

Do you seek God's wisdom before you make decisions in life? Do you ask Him what He would have you do, or do you just trust your own wisdom? Scripture doesn't say exactly how Jesus chose the twelve apostles, but all we know about this choice was that it was something that He spent time in prayer with His Father about. From this, there are two great lessons. First, if Jesus needed His Father's direction and leading for making choices in life, you desperately need His wisdom in making decisions and choices about your life. Second, the example that Jesus set to invest His life into a few disciples is a great example to follow. It is easy to get overwhelmed and think that you have to affect large groups of people, but Jesus wasn't awed by crowds. He knew the great importance of investing in the few deeply rather than investing in the majority of people in a little way. The next time you have to make a decision, make it a priority to go to the Father to ask for wisdom. One thing you can ask Him for wisdom for today is who He would like you to invest in as you seek to help others around you grow in their faith.

Suggestions for Prayer

- * *Thank God for sending Jesus to be an example for you to follow.*
- * *Ask God to show you who He wants you to invest in.*
- * *Thank God for those who have invested their lives in you.*

Thought for the day

Matthew 12:15-21

What was Jesus aware of (vs 15)? (See verse 14)

What did Jesus decide to do (vs 15)?

What did Jesus do for many people (vs 15)?

What did he ask them not to do once He healed them (vs 16)?

Why do you think He asked them this?

Why do you think most didn't listen?

How was this a fulfillment of prophecy (vs 17)?

What did the prophecy say was the view of the Father towards the Son (vs 18)?

Where have you read the "well pleased" statement before (vs 18)?

How is the trinity seen in this passage (vs 18)?

Why do you think the prophecy is directed towards the Gentiles and not just the Jews (vs 18)?

What was the Messiah not going to do (vs 19)?

What do you think verses 19-20 have to do with the first coming of the Messiah?

****These were terms of war or forced victory. When the Messiah would come in His first coming, He was coming to save all men and deliver them from their sin. When He comes the second time, that coming will be completely different.*

Who would hope in the name of the Messiah (vs 21)?

How were the miracles that Jesus was doing helping to lead to the fulfillment of this prophecy?

"The Poor in Spirit"

Study: Matthew 5:1-3, Luke 6:17-20

Reading: Psalm 1:1-6, 128:1-6

Memory: Psalm 51:16



On the Mount of Beatitudes, overlooking the Sea of Galilee to the east. In early spring, this hill very green and fertile without the tall weeds. This picture was taken in late May.

What Does the Bible Say?

As the crowds grew larger, Jesus looked for places that would be very advantageous to teach such a large crowd and we are told that Jesus went up on a mountain and sat down to teach. He most likely sat on a rock and taught from there with the crowd below Him, gathered on the hillside. Some scholars think He was in the middle of the hill teaching to the crowd who was above Him, like a natural amphitheater. Matthew says that He went up on a mountain to teach and Luke says that He found a level place after He "came down" with the disciples. The picture above is the place where tradition says that Jesus did this, though we can't be certain of the exact location. What we are certain of is that the crowds were very large because we are told once again that people were coming from all over the region to hear what Jesus had to say (Matthew 5:1-2, Luke 6:17-19).

Jesus began to teach what are called the “Beatitudes” to all those who were in the crowd. This is one of the most lengthy sermons that is recorded for us in the Bible and we will spend the next several days studying this sermon. Jesus began by describing how those who are poor in spirit will truly be blessed. Luke leaves out the “in spirit” that Matthew included, but Matthew wanted to make it clear that Jesus was talking a great deal about the spiritual realm. This teaching was in great contradiction to the religion of that day. To be “godly” for them was to have a high and lofty position in the religious gatherings. Often, the more money a person had and the higher position they had, the more godly they were thought to be. The teachings of Jesus were completely opposed to the ways the religious leaders taught by declaring that it was those who were poor in spirit who would receive the true blessings from God. Outward position meant very little when it came to experiencing true happiness. Someone could have all the money in the world and be miserable and someone could be dirt poor and be extremely happy. Real happiness and blessing came to those who chose to humble themselves and realize how much they needed God. Being poor in spirit meant that a person knew they were nothing spiritually, but that a person could be something through the grace and mercy of God (Matthew 5:3, Luke 6:20).

How Does this Apply to Me?

Are you “poor in spirit”? Do you approach God understanding that you have no merit or right on your own to come into His presence? Do you realize how desperately you need the blood of Jesus Christ to atone for your sin and how you need Him to declare you as righteous before God? When you start to think that you are spiritually something in and of yourself, you will begin to lose the great blessing and spiritual fullness that comes from humbling yourself and realizing your desperate need for Christ. Ask God to help you understand what it means to be “poor in spirit” and ask Him to give you the ability to live the way He desires you to live in your daily life.

Thought for the day

Matthew 5

What did Jesus see (vs 1)?

Why were crowds following Jesus at this point?

Where did Jesus decide to go (vs 1)?

What did He do when He got there (vs 1)?

Luke 6

Where did Jesus stand (vs 17)?

Who was all around Him (vs 17)?

What is the difference between the disciples and the apostles?

****The apostles were disciples, but they were the specific twelve that Jesus had chosen. The disciples were anyone, men or woman, who made the choice to follow Jesus.*

Where had people come from to hear Jesus (vs 17)?

****This was a broad area that extended many miles in all directions. This reveals how the fame of Jesus was growing and how His message was making an impact on the whole region.*

What was Jesus doing for the crowd (vs 18)?

What did the crowd want to do (vs 19)? Why?

What does this reveal about the great power of Jesus?

Who did Jesus look towards when He started speaking (vs 20)? Why do you think Luke records this?

****Jesus was focusing this message on the spiritual growth of those who had already chosen to follow Him.*

Who did Jesus say would be blessed (vs 20)? How do you think this is true?

“Great Blessings”

Study: Matthew 5:4-6, Luke 6:20-21, 24-26

Reading: Romans 8:1-39

Memory: Psalm 51:16

What Does the Bible Say?

Jesus pronounced blessings on those who mourn for they will find comfort for their souls in Christ. The reality is that all people will experience times of mourning and sadness whether they follow Christ or not, but all people are not comforted. In John 14, 15 and 16, Jesus described the Holy Spirit as the Comforter. All those who are in Christ will find comfort for their troubled hearts. This could be trouble that comes because of personal sin. When a person mourns over their sin, great grace and forgiveness is found. This comfort can also be seen through the difficulties in life when Christ followers have a hope that all things do work together for good because their Heavenly Father has a great love for them. This statement about mourning does reveal to us that there will be sad and difficult times in the life of a believer, but it also reveals that there is great comfort in God. The verse implies that our true comfort will sometimes not be seen until we get to the kingdom of God. There will be times of persecution and difficulties when we choose to follow Christ, but one day it will all be worth it (Matthew 5:4, Luke 6:21).

Those who are meek will also be blessed because it is the meek who will inherit the earth. The idea of meekness is one of having power, but power that is under control. This is in opposition to the common earthly thought that those who are oppressive and controlling are the ones who will always win out. In the end, it is those who have authority and power, yet lead and guide others in humility that will truly be victorious. Meekness isn't allowing others to run over you, but it is standing for what is right and yet doing it with humility and love (Matthew 5:5).

Those who hunger and thirst after righteousness will also be blessed. This is not a desire for power or the pleasures of this world, but it is a desire to do what is right. This might mean that the follower of Christ goes without things on this earth, but he will be rewarded by God in this life and in the life to come (Matthew 6:6, Luke 6:20).

Luke added how Jesus warned those who sought the immediate pride and pleasures of this world. Those who sought after their fleshly desires

would receive a temporal satisfaction, but that would quickly fade and they would be left wanting more. This seems to be directed more at the religious leaders than it does at those who were trapped in sin, but both categories of people would experience the same results. Those who indulged in this life without regarding the true desire of God would find emptiness in the end, while those who chose to sacrifice and discipline themselves for God would find the fulness that God had to offer (Luke 6:24-26).

How Does this Apply to Me?

Are you willing to mourn for the cause of Christ? How do you respond when you face difficult times? Do you get upset at God for what has happened to you or do you realize how much He loves you and trust in that love? Many people think that when they follow Christ it will relieve all their problems, but that is never promised by God. You are actually told that as a follower of Christ you will face hard times but that God will be with you each step of the way if you look to Him.

Is meekness a part of your life? A meek person is not a sickly, weak individual, but one who is very strong. They are strong in the truth, but their strength is not revealed in running over others. It is seen by leading with humility and love.

Do you hunger and thirst for righteousness or do you find yourself seeking the pleasures of this world? It is easy for you to be detoured in this life by all the good things this life has to offer, causing you to hunger for the enjoyments of this world. Though many of these are not bad to participate in, and in moderation can be fully enjoyed, you need to constantly examine your life to make sure you are hungering more after spiritual food than you are for the things this world has to offer.

Suggestions for Prayer

- * *Thank God for the promises of hope He gives you.*
- * *Ask God to help you hunger after Him.*
- * *Praise God because He alone can bring fulfillment in your life.*

Thought for the day

Luke 6

Who did Jesus say would be blessed (vs 21)?

What does Matthew 5:6 add to what Luke had recorded?

What will eventually happen (vs 21)?

When do you think this satisfaction comes?

Who else would be blessed (vs 21)?

What will happen for those who weep (vs 21)?

How does Matthew 5:4 record this differently?

What does this reveal about suffering in this life?

When do you think this laughter and comfort will come?

What did Jesus say about earthly riches (vs 24)?

Does this mean that anyone with riches is in a bad spot?

****The Bible records several people who had great wealth and also talks about the importance of those with wealth using it to bring honor and glory to God.*

What are those who have all they need on this earth warned about (vs 25)?

What are those who experience great times of laughter on this earth warned about (vs 25)?

What did Jesus say we should be careful of (vs 26)?

What example did Jesus use (vs 26)?

Matthew 5

What is a meek person (vs 5)? Why will they inherit the earth?

What will happen to those who hunger for righteousness (vs 6)?

Memory Verses

Psalms 51:1 Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. 2 Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin! 3 For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. 4 Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight, so that you may be justified in your words and blameless in your judgment. 5 Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sin did my mother conceive me. 6 Behold, you delight in truth in the inward being, and you teach me wisdom in the secret heart. 7 Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. 8 Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones that you have broken rejoice. 9 Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities. 10 Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. 11 Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me. 12 Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with a willing spirit. 13 Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will return to you. 14 Deliver me from bloodguiltiness, O God, O God of my salvation, and my tongue will sing aloud of your righteousness. 15 O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise. 16 For you will not delight in sacrifice, or I would give it; you will not be pleased with a burnt offering.

