



**Sunday Teaching Discussion Guide:
SERMON ON THE MOUNT 2.4.2018**

1. When you hear the word “blessed”, what first comes to your mind? How do you normally describe someone who is blessed?
2. READ Matthew 5:1-3
3. Jesus questions our definitions of what it means to be blessed. How does Jesus’s statement in verse 3 seem to contradict our usual idea of someone being blessed?
4. Another good translation of this verse is, “Wonderful news for the poor in spirit! The kingdom of heaven is yours!”* How does this change the way you look at this verse?
5. READ Matthew 19:16-24
6. Why do you think the rich man had a hard time letting go of the things he owned? How are we sometimes like the rich man?
7. On Sunday, Ryan said that the poor are blessed because their hands are already open and Jesus invites us to live our lives like that. What are some things that you need to let go of to have open hands?
8. How can you have a more open handed view of your life, your faith, your possessions, and the world around you? What are some specific things you need to worry less about “owning”? How does living like this live out the Kingdom of Heaven (what God desires for the world) in your own life?

Invite members of your group to share prayer requests. If you or someone in your group is comfortable, give a short prayer thanking God for your group discussion and asking God to be with the requests that have been shared.

*Wright, N.T. *The Kingdom New Testament: A Contemporary Translation*. 2012