

THE KING SPEAKS

a Study in the Sermon On The Mount | Discussion Guide
Week 2 – September 16
Rising To The Challenge | Matthew 5:10-16

Introduction

Christianity doesn't begin with rules to follow and a God who saves those who follow according to his standard. Instead, Christianity begins with a God who saves. And then God gives guidelines for those who are saved. In other words, Christianity does not begin with a teacher of morality. It begins with a Savior of sinners. And this Savior gives guidelines on how to live.

Read Matthew 5:10-16 before beginning this week's study.

Questions for Study

1. Looking back over your life, what would you say are the three greatest challenges that you've faced? What made each one a challenge? What did you learn and gain from each challenge?
2. Jesus repeats the word 'blessed' in the first nine verses of his sermon (vs. 3-11). God used this same word when He called Abraham to follow him. Read Genesis 12:2-3. What did God say would be the result of his blessing on Abraham?
3. Take time to write down the ways God has blessed you.

God's blessing on Abraham was never intended to end with Abraham. It was intended to bring world wide blessing to others. God's greatest blessing is salvation through Jesus Christ. In Matthew 5:13-16, Jesus gives us two ways in which we're to extend the blessing of our salvation to others. We're to be salt and we're to be light.

4. How do we bless this world by being salt and light? (To answer this question think about the purpose each one serves in the daily course of life?)
5. Why is it possible for us living as salt and light to be a dangerous thing to do?
6. Knowing that this potential for danger exists, how does it help you to read what Jesus said in verses 11 and 12?