

3/3/19 | Red Letters: How to Be Blessed



"Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven." —Matthew 5:10 | NIV

1. Has anyone ever grabbed a prize that was right in front of you? Explain.
2. Consider this idiom. What does it mean to the world? What does it mean to a believer in Christ?

"Keep your eyes on the prize."

3. Read 2 Corinthians 2:18, Hebrews 12:2, and Colossians 3:1-4. What (or Who) is our prize?
4. Do you ever follow God just for earthly prizes?
5. What stuck out to you from the sermon this week? What stuck out to you from the Sermon on the Mount this week? Explain.

God's Blessings

6. Read Romans 4:6-8 and James 1:12. What are God's blessings?
7. Read Matthew 6:19-21. How do we store up "treasures in heaven"?
8. What do Luke 18:22 and 1 Timothy 6:18-19 say about treasures in heaven?
9. What do Genesis 15:1 and Colossians 3:23-24, and Revelation 22:12-13 say about how God rewards His followers?

10. Compare these treasures and rewards with the blessings promised Matthew 5:3-12.
11. Does every believer receive some blessing? Do some believers receive more? Explain.
12. Consider Revelation 19:9. What sort of people do you imagine at God's feast?
13. Read Luke 14:12-24. What can we learn about God's blessings from this parable?
14. What sort of people are being blessed, treasured, and rewarded?
15. Finally, consider Romans 9:16. Are God's blessings earned?
16. How can this study help you focus on heavenly prizes rather than earthly ones this week?

TAKEAWAY: What is it about your life that attracts other people to Jesus?