

## Matthew 5:10-12

*The Beatitudes: Blessed are the Persecuted*

### Meaning

### Examples

### Promise

### Application

## Application of Matthew 5:10-12

1. Why might persecution be the natural result of a person 'being' the disciple Jesus described in the previous 7 beatitudes?
2. What is persecution? What are general categories of persecution from our text?
3. What's the difference between being persecuted for doing what is right and for Christ than suffering for your foolishness or any other reason?  
See also 1 Pet 4:14-16
  - a. How can you grow in godliness so you don't suffer for your foolish or sinful actions, but for the sake of Christ and righteousness?
4. Who are some examples of people in Scripture, church history (and possibly people in your own life) who've experienced persecution and how can you follow their example?
5. Consider the promise Jesus gives to the persecuted of their inheritance in the kingdom of heaven (v. 10), how does this comfort and motivate you to live for Christ?
6. Consider the promise of a great reward in heaven (v. 12), how does this motivate you to live for Christ and even rejoice in persecution?
  - a. Reflect on other passages in Scripture referring to eternal glory/rewards e.g. Matt 6:1-18; 10:41-42; Rom 8:18; 1 Cor 3:10-15; 2 Cor 4:17-18; 5:10-11; 2 Tim 4:8
7. How do (or should) Jesus' words change your view on persecution?
  - a. Think about the example of the Apostles in Acts 5:40-41 and how they rejoiced after excruciating torture (see also 1 Pet 1:3-9; 4:12-16)
  - b. Ask God to give you His perspective of persecution such that you'll respond with joy and gladness (v. 12).
8. Reflect on the sobering reality that persecution isn't something we can (or should try to) avoid (e.g. John 15:18-21; 2 Tim 3:12) and surrender any fears to the Lord as you seek to live for Him, even under the threat of possible persecution.
9. Pray for the persecuted church this week based on Jesus' words.

Reading this week: Read Matt 5:3-16 each day this week.

## Sermon Notes for Children (or Children at Heart)

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Pastor \_\_\_\_\_

<u>Book</u>	<u>Sermon Main Points</u> <i>The B</i> _____ :  Blessed are the P _____ (vv. __)	<u>Other Bible References:</u> _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____
<u>Chapter</u>	- M _____ - E _____ - P _____ - A _____	
<u>Verses</u>		

### Words you heard during the sermon (tally each time)

God/Yahweh/ Father	Christ/Jesus/Lord	Example(s)	Rejoice/ Glad	Persecution/ Persecuted	Us

What is the message about? \_\_\_\_\_

How can you do this? \_\_\_\_\_

What/who can you pray for? \_\_\_\_\_

Draw a picture related to the message: