

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FOR MATTHEW 5:1-12

- 1. In what way(s) did God speak to you today through His Spirit and His Word?
- 2. What does it mean to be "poor in spirit" and why is this confession necessary to receive the Kingdom of Heaven?
- 3. How and when were you brought to see yourself as "poor in spirit" and how were you led to the hope of Christ?
- 4. When was the last time you were grieved over sin in your life or the lives of others? How has Christ comforted you when grieving over your sin rather than condemning you?
- 5. In what ways are you expressing and demonstrating your daily dependence on God? How is He proving Himself faithful?
- 6. As you've hungered and thirsted for righteousness, how have you been satisfied by God?
- 7. With whom are you struggling to extend mercy? Why should believers overflow with mercy?
- 8. How are you helping others receive peace from God through Christ? How are you striving to maintain the bond of peace within our faith family?
- 9. How may our progressing in Christ-likeness lead to our persecution for Christ?
- 10. When persecuted, how does the Spirit help us rejoice rather than respond with the same reviling we receive?
- 11. Three final questions of application:
 - a. Are you truly participating in the Kingdom because you've received spiritual life through Christ?
 - b. Are you progressing in the Kingdom by growing in Christlikeness or is your growth hindered by pursuing something else?
 - c. As you grow in and go for Christ, are you willing to be persecuted for the sake of Christ?