

Community Group Homework Questions

Song (Optional): "I Will Wait for You" (Psalm 130)

1. In expositing Matthew 5 (a parallel passage to Luke 6), Pastor Bryan mentioned the beatitude regarding the peacemakers-- "they shall be called sons of God." As our country, culture, and communities become increasingly polarized and hostile towards one another, how can we be peacemakers without compromising truth?
2. In your community or experience, what are some common ways that Christians bring natural consequences on themselves that they might be prone to mislabel as persecution?
3. Where are we likely to encounter genuine persecution in our communities? How can we prepare ourselves to respond well to it?
4. Pastor Bryan pointed out that rejoicing over our persecution is only made possible when we latch on to the reality of the eternal Kingdom of God. How do you seek to foster that sort of perspective in your own life?
5. Read together the account of the Apostles being arrested in Acts 5:17-42. Notice the response in verse 41 and the reason for it-- "they were counted worthy to suffer dishonor for the name." What does that phrase mean? Why was it a source of joy? How can you relate to this account?

LEAP FOR JOY

Luke 6:22-23

Series #33

The following are questions designed to facilitate greater learning and deeper understanding of spiritual truths presented in the sermon: **"Leap For Joy."** All of the questions are answered as the sermon is presented. We hope that it will be a catalyst to spiritual growth in your life.

1. Many Christians around the world face what?
2. Luke 6:22-23 conclude the brief list of what is known as what?
3. The word, "Blessed", to those who heard Jesus say this, it meant what to them?
4. The path of blessedness and happiness all begins by being what?
5. Are you poor in spirit?
6. Those who recognize and acknowledge their sinful unworthiness are those who are given what?
7. Our lost condition causes to do what?
8. Have you personally humbled yourself before the Lord to receive His grace, forgiveness, life, salvation and power to live life the way you ought to live it?
9. Do you hunger and thirst for righteousness?
10. When we are poor in spirit, mourning over our sin, and meekly humble, we no longer hold to what?
11. Are you truly happy?

12. What do the merciful obtain?
13. Why do we need mercy from God?
14. The pure in heart are given the promise that they shall what?
15. God is in the business of what?
16. What do true children of God upset?
17. Though much persecution of Christians comes from secular government, the persecution the prophets, Jesus, and the apostles experienced came from whom?
18. Most of the harassment and persecution we true believers face today is from whom?
19. Salvation is NOT in any what?
20. Much of the secular world simply does what with our message?
21. Why is the phrase, "For the Son of Man's sake" (verse 22) so important?
22. Have you experienced persecution but it wasn't for the Son of Man's sake?
23. Do you ever make excuses for why you sometimes experience the consequences of your own improper actions?
24. What should we be if we are persecuted for the Lord's sake?
25. What can enable us to have a radical paradigm shift and be happy when hated, excluded, reviled, etc. for doing the right thing?
26. Everything pales in comparison to the glory that will be revealed in us in what ?
27. What really matters is that our names are what? Is yours?
28. What are the various ways that "persecution" takes place?
29. What is the most common form of persecution we experience here in America?
30. When we are persecuted for Christ, we should see ourselves as what?
31. Who are we identified with when we rejoice in our persecution?
32. If we have been persecuted for the Son of Man's sake, we will be greatly what?
33. Why do we most often not rejoice when people say all kinds of evil against us falsely for the Son of Man's sake?
34. The teaching of Jesus is what?
35. Are we a lot like Peter? How do we not be like him?