# SUMMERINAL STREESINMATHINGST





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# **MATTHEW 5:7-12**

#### HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

The goal is to see how Jesus calls his followers to reflect his kingdom character.

## CONNECT

Use these questions to begin the discussion:

1. Of all the kingdoms and nations that have existed in history, which one would you most like to have witnessed and why?

#### **READ THE TEXT**

Ask a group member to read the following text out loud: Matthew 5:7-12

## **DISCUSS & APPLY**

These questions are designed to help us **know**, **love**, and **serve** God fully. Don't feel pressure to get through all the questions, especially if you find that your group needs to spend extra time in one place.

- 1. Read verse 7. Can you think of a time where someone showed exceeding mercy to you? What impact did it have on you?
- 2. What warning is Jesus giving us for those who are not merciful? What does this tell us about the relationship between God's mercy for us and our mercy for others?
- 3. Read verse 8. What makes someone pure in heart? What impact does sin have on our experience of God?
- 4. Read verse 9. Is there a difference between being a peacemaker and a peacekeeper?
- 5. In Romans 14:17 Paul tells us that the kingdom of God is a matter of righteousness, peace, and joy. What does it look like to stand for both peace and righteousness in an unrighteous world?
- 6. Read verses 10-12. When is a time that you have been persecuted for righteousness' sake?
- 7. We know that Jesus, the prophets who came before him, and the apostles that went out after him were persecuted. Why do you believe persecution is so prevalent in the Christian life? Check out Acts 5:41. How does this impact your view of persecution?





- 8. Jesus mentions our reward in heaven in verse 12. How does the idea of earning heavenly awards square up against the idea of being saved by nothing we have done? How should we live life in light of this?
- **9.** After spending the past two weeks in the beatitudes, what would you say is your biggest call to action?

#### PRAY

Thank God for the gift of His church. Pray for a desire to make love the motivation for all that we do. Ask God to help your group grow in their spiritual gifts and desire to use them to serve the church and to evangelize.

# **COMMUNITY GROUP MISSION PARTNERS**

As we seek to make gospel-centered disciples among all people for the glory of God, we step into our communities and the rest of the world as ambassadors of Christ. Our community groups have an awesome opportunity to serve together in this mission by adopting a local partner and an international partner to invest in. To adopt a local and international partner, fill out this form: https://christcommunity.ccbchurch.com/goto/forms/573/responses/new



