Week 1: THE DESIRE OF GOD'S LOVE

DAY 3: BEATITUDES

## Luke 6:20-26 (ESV)

And he lifted up his eyes on his disciples and said: "Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you shall be satisfied. Blessed are you who weep now, for you shall laugh. Blessed are you when people hate you and when they exclude you and revile you and spurn your name as evil, on account of the Son of Man! Rejoice in that day, and leap for joy, for behold, your reward is great in heaven; for so their fathers did to the prophets. But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation. Woe to you who are full now, for you shall be hungry. Woe to you who laugh now, for you shall mourn and weep. Woe to you, when all people speak well of you, for so their fathers did to the false prophets."

Our culture defines us by our success. People are considered successful by graduating from high school or college, getting a high paying job, getting married, buying a house, having 2.5 kids, buying a bigger and better house, buying nice cars, and eventually retiring to a life where they can live comfortably and do what they want. Our culture defines us by how we live up to these standards.

In this passage on the Beatitudes, Jesus is saying there is more to life than being successful by societal standards. He is essentially redefining what it means to live a successful life and is telling us that to do so we must find our identity in Him. He is telling us that we shouldn't be concerned about what the world thinks about us, but instead we should be concerned about what Jesus thinks about us.

Trevor Lawrence, National Champion Quarterback of the Clemson Tigers, said it this way, ""I put my identity in what Christ says, who He thinks I am and who I know that He says I am," the freshman said. "Like I said, it really does not matter what people think of me or how good they think I play. That does not really matter. That has been a big thing for me, in my situation, just knowing that and having confidence in that."

## **FAMILY TABLE TALK QUESTIONS**

- 1. What are some things that we find our identity in?
- 2. What does it mean to find your identity in Christ?

## PRAYER FOCUS

- Pray that God will shed light on the things in your life that you find your identity in rather than Him.
- Pray that you will be able to find your identity in Him alone.
- Thank God that He was willing to send Jesus to the Cross so that we could find our identity in Him.

THE DESIRE OF GOD'S LOVE: DAY 3