International Bible Lesson

Class Preparation Guide for Matthew 5:1-12

Before your next class meeting, read the Bible verses above. Write your favorite verse or the most meaningful verse or the verse that leaves you with the most questions from your reading in the space below. Be ready to share your verse with your class. Then, write a brief answer to the questions below for class discussion.

Questions for Discussion and Thinking Further

1. Why do you think Jesus began His beatitudes by saying those who are poor in spirit are happy or blessed? How might this differ from a worldly perspective?

2. What is the promise in the second beatitude? How might this promise encourage a follower of Jesus?

3. What does the world usually think of a meek person? What does Jesus think about a meek person? Why do you think there is a difference in thinking?

4. What is the relationship between hungering and thirsting for righteousness and purity of heart?

5. Why are the followers of Jesus persecuted rather than honored by the world? Why do you think some in the church persecute those in the church who are truly seeking to follow Jesus?