

Beatitudes Examination

1. *“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.”*

Does my desire for poverty of spirit match my lifestyle?

When I pray, do I *only* ask God for things, instead of for a closer relationship with Him?

Do I contribute my time, talent and money to the poor of the world? Or to myself?

2. *“Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.”*

Do I let the pain and suffering of other people affect me, or do I ignore it?

Am I willing to admit my own pain, brokenness and be vulnerable with others?

When was the last time I really repented for my sin, or asked someone to forgive me whom I hurt?

3. *“Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.”*

Do I understand nonviolence as a way to fight evil with good, and do I choose to live that way?

Have I sacrificed myself for the good of another person?

Do I try and bully, guilt, or intimidate other people, including parents and teachers, to do what I want?

4. *“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.”*

How much of a priority is it to love and follow Jesus Christ in my life? Honestly.

Do I really want the world to be a better place? What actions have I done to make it that way?

Have I let fear keep me silent when I should have spoken out?

5. *“Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.”*

Do I expect mercy from others, like parents or teachers, but not from myself towards others?

Are there people in my life who are suffering because of my lack of forgiveness?

Am I merciful to people to my “enemies,” or to people I just avoid or generally dislike?

6. *“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.”*

Do I let popular opinions, fads, and people control how I act, or do I know who I am and what I do?

Have I led others to lust and impurity by the way I dress, through conversations, or other means?

Do I take the time for God in my life through personal and private prayer?

7. *“Blessed are the peacemakers for they shall be called children of God.”*

Am I eager for reconciliation, or do I antagonize and try to get even?

Do I start a lot of fights in my home by not trying to understand the other person’s perspective?

Do I glorify violence and hostility? Or is my presence a source of peace to those around me?

8. *“Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.”*

Am I embarrassed to step out of the mainstream to stand up for a principle?

When was the last time I suffered for the Gospel?

Am I only a Christian when it is convenient for me, or socially acceptable?