

**Table questions prior to the lecture:**

1. What significantly impressed you from our study of the Sermon on the Mount – lectures, videos, and study guide?
2. What are you thankful for in Matthew 5?

**Questions for discussion following the lecture (Points to Ponder):**

1. Becoming poor in spirit, mourning for one's sins, peacemaking – how is each of these practices counter-cultural?
2. Read I Corinthians 3:1 – 23; note especially verses 18 and 19.  
How do these verses support or reinforce the content of Matthew 5?
3. As Christians we should be always seeking to do God's will in our lives. Summarize in a sentence or two what you see of God's will in the Beatitudes (Matthew 5: 3 – 12) and in the antithetical statements of Matthew 5: 21 – 27.

**The Beatitudes:**

4. Can the kingdom of God be attained without becoming poor in spirit? Why or why not?
5. Does mourning the loss of a loved one cover the obligation of the second beatitude – “Blessed are those who mourn. . . .”?

6. Is purity of heart satisfied by attending worship services (Hebrews 4: 11 – 13)?

“You have heard it said” . . . “but I say unto you . . . .”

7. What practical guidance does Jesus give for breaking the cycle of anger and retaliation?

8. What challenge do you experience with self-control? How can your love for Jesus and his kingdom overcome these challenges?

9. How did the Pharisees err from the Scriptures (Torah) they so fervently believed? What warning can you take from this? Read Luke 12: 1 – 3.

10. How have you been challenged to live your Christian walk from the “inside out”?