



“The Peacemakers”

Pastor Ken Brummel 9-13-20

**Begin with Prayer, Reciting the beatitudes from memory,
and Reading Matthew 5:1-12.**

1. Have you ever experienced persecution? Share your experiences.
2. What does “Blessed” mean in each of the Beatitudes and how can we make sure we are living for the right kind of blessing?
3. READ Luke 21:10-17. Do you think Jesus return is near based on current events in the world? How will God make persecution worth our while?
4. Discuss the following quote by John Stott. What evidence do you see of a clash between two irreconcilable value-systems in the USA?
“It may seem strange that Jesus should pass from peacemaking to persecution, from the work of reconciliation to the experience of hostility. Yet however hard we may try to make peace with some people, they refuse to live at peace with us. Not all attempts at reconciliation succeed. Indeed, some take the initiative to oppose us, and in particular to 'revile' or slander us. This is not because of our foibles or idiosyncrasies, but 'for righteousness' sake' (v.10) and 'on my account' (v.11), that is, because they find distasteful the righteousness for which we hunger and thirst (v.6), and because they have rejected the Christ we seek to follow. Persecution is simply a clash between two irreconcilable value-systems.”
5. READ II Timothy 3:12. Discuss how we can avoid persecution (see 7 things table in sermon notes) and what is a better choice?
6. Read Romans 8:17-18; Mark 10:29-30; and Acts 5:40-42. How should these verses encourage us?
7. We are not home yet... so review the 5 application questions from the sermon notes and chart your Next Steps.
8. How has the Series on the Beatitudes challenged or blessed you?