

MATTHEW 5.1-20

1. What two different groups of people do you see mentioned in verse 1?
2. Between verses 3-10, there are 8 beatitudes. Each beatitude begins by pronouncing a blessing and ends with a promise. Which two beatitudes end with the same **promise**?
3. In the first beatitude, Jesus says that the '**poor in spirit**' are blessed. We know what it means to be poor in material things, but what does it mean to be poor in spirit? Why do you think Jesus placed this particular beatitude first among them all?
4. According to the fourth beatitude, what is to be our attitude toward **righteousness**? In another beatitude, what does Jesus say will happen to us because of righteousness?
5. In verse 10, Jesus says that his disciples will be **persecuted**. In verse 11, what are some of the types of persecution that we may receive?
6. Jesus commanded his disciples to **rejoice** and be glad when they're persecuted (v. 12). Why are we to rejoice when persecuted?
7. Jesus said that we will be **persecuted** just as the prophets of old were persecuted. What happened to Zechariah (2 Chron. 20:24-22)? To Jeremiah (Jer. 20:1-2)? To John the Baptist?

8. Jesus says that we are the **salt** of the earth. What does he warn can happen to salt? What might this mean spiritually?

9. We are the **light** of the world. Jesus uses two illustrations of light: a _____ on a _____ and a _____ on a _____.

10. When people see our light shining, what is it that Jesus says they're seeing?

11. What misconception did some people have about Jesus and his purpose (v. 17)?

12. Look at verses 19-20. What were the **scribes and Pharisees** apparently doing with the commandments of God?