

Sunnyside Foursquare

Series: Kingdom Minded

Title: Blessed are the Pure in Heart

Pastor DJ Vick / 5.17.26

Matthew 5:1-8

Now when Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him, ² and he began to teach them.

He said:

³ “Blessed are the poor in spirit,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

⁴ Blessed are those who mourn,
for they will be comforted.

⁵ Blessed are the meek,
for they will inherit the earth.

⁶ Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,
for they will be filled.

⁷ Blessed are the merciful,
for they will be shown mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart,
for they will see God.

Questions:

#1. How would you define purity in your own words? Why is being pure, in our culture, such a battle and a challenge?

Pastor DJ’s favorite definition of Purity is: **Freedom**. – Tim Oas (DJ’s friend)

#2. **Read Matthew 5:27-30.** Jesus uses radical (hyperbolic) language in regard to how to resist the temptation of lust. Why do you think He was so intense and passionate about this?

Check this verse out: “The righteousness of the upright delivers them, but the unfaithful are **trapped** by evil desires.” – **Prv. 11:6**

#3. **Read Matthew 5:31-32.** Jesus was lifted the value of a covenantal marriage here to its purest form. How do think He his original audience took it? How did you receive it today? If you're married, how can you honor your spouse more? If you're not married, yet desire to be, how do you think you can better prepare yourself for it?

#4. **Read Matthew 5:33-37.** Jesus here strips down unnecessary use of people swearing by this or that and says our words can actually be less and have more meaning (yes be yes & no be no). How would you rate the health of your language and use of your tongue (1-10, 1 being not so good & 10 being fully Christ-like)? *See quote on speech below. 😊

#5. What is one prayerful take away you have from today knowing Jesus came to set us free and to empower us to live a holy & pure life *in Him*?

Quote on the importance of “words” and speech!

Redeeming How We Talk by Ken Wytsma & A.J. Swoboda

“Enter Satan, pouncing on Eve. The very first words out of the snake’s mouth in Genesis are framed as a **deconstructive question**: “Did God really say, ‘You must not eat from any tree in the garden’?” (Gen. 3:1). The devi’s work in the world-his **destructive activity** of stealing, robbing, and confusing-begins with words, specifically with a CYNICAL question. In a tricky and maligning way, the very good word of God that made the world is being questioned.

(Slide) “God begins a creative kingdom with words, whereas the devil begins a destructive kingdom with words.” - **Redeeming How We Talk** by Ken Wytsma & A.J. Swoboda