



6. “Gospel”

²³ Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and healing every disease and sickness among the people. ²⁴ News about him spread all over Syria, and people brought to him all who were ill with various diseases, those suffering severe pain, the demon-possessed, those having seizures, and the paralyzed; and he healed them. ²⁵ Large crowds from Galilee, the Decapolis, Jerusalem, Judea and the region across the Jordan followed him. -Matthew 4:23-25

¹ 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, ⁸ Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. ⁹ Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. ¹⁰ Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. ¹¹ “Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. -Matthew 5:1-11

Watch the video from The Bible Project [“Gospel”](#) prior to or at the start of the study.

1. Prior to the Bible Project series, how might you have tried to explain the word “gospel” to someone who is not a believer?
2. The gospel of Matthew tells us that Jesus’ ministry began with him preaching: “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” (Mt 4:17). Now read Matthew 4:23-25. What are some of the things that happen when the good news of the kingdom is preached and the kingdom of heaven actually comes near?
3. The video speaks of the “good news” of the gospel as not just a favorable word but a royal declaration of Christ’s rule and reign on this earth. Can you think of something in your life that you have submitted under the rule and reign of Christ (e.g. goals, relational conflict, sin struggle, etc) where you experienced his blessing?
4. Read Matthew 5:1-11. The Sermon on the Mount describes a life surrendered to the king and presents kingdom ethics followers of Christ are called to. Which of these promised blessings (or beatitudes) most resonates with you right now and why? Is there something that you have found difficult to surrender to Christ that you sense he is calling you to bring under his lordship?