



The King's Road: The Revelation of the King

Re: GROUP

Small Group Discussion Guide

The King's Road: Jesus' Characteristics of a Disciple

Text: Matthew 4:23–5:16

Focus: The blessed life and character of true disciples of Jesus.

Intro / Icebreaker

Begin by sharing about a time you carried more than your share of responsibility—or when someone else carried it for you. How did that experience shape your understanding of teamwork, humility, or dependence on others?

Getting Started – Seeing the Scene

1. Read Matthew 4:23–25. What do these verses reveal about Jesus' ministry before the Sermon on the Mount?
2. Why do you think Jesus began His teaching with a description of who is *blessed*? What might He be trying to redefine for His listeners?

Digging Deeper – The Characteristics of the Blessed

3. Jesus said, "Blessed are the poor in spirit." What does it mean to be poor in spirit, and why is this the foundation of all the Beatitudes?
4. How do mourning and meekness naturally follow from realizing our spiritual poverty (vv. 4–5)?
5. Jesus promised satisfaction to those who "hunger and thirst for righteousness." What might that look like in our daily lives? What do people often hunger and thirst for instead?
6. Discuss the relationship between mercy, purity of heart, and peacemaking. How do these qualities reflect the character of Christ?

The Reality of Persecution

7. Read Matthew 5:10–12. Why does Jesus say that persecution is part of the blessed life?
8. How can believers today maintain joy and faithfulness when facing criticism or rejection for following Christ?
9. Have you ever experienced opposition because of your faith? What helped you stay faithful or regain courage?

Living as Salt and Light

10. In Matthew 5:13–16, Jesus calls His followers “the salt of the earth” and “the light of the world.” What do these metaphors teach us about the role of disciples in the world?
11. How do our good works point others to God rather than ourselves?
12. What are some practical ways your group or church can shine light and preserve truth in your community this week?

Application & Reflection

- Which Beatitude challenges you most right now?
- How does recognizing your spiritual poverty deepen your gratitude for the gospel?
- In what area do you need the Spirit’s help to live more like a true disciple of Jesus?

Prayer Focus

Spend time praying through the Beatitudes—asking God to shape your group with the heart of true disciples: humble, merciful, pure, and courageous witnesses who shine brightly for Christ.