King Jesus, the Beatitudes, and The Kingdom of Heaven

Scriptures

- **Isaiah 66:2**
  \(2\text{nd}\)"For My hand made all these things, Thus all these things came into being," declares the Lord. "But to this one I will look, To him who is humble and contrite of spirit, and who trembles at My word.

- **John 15:7-8**
  7If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. 8My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit, and so prove to be My disciples.

- **John 17:17**
  17Sanctify them in the truth; Your word is truth.

- **Matthew 5:2-3**
  2He opened His mouth and began to teach them, saying, 3"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

- **Matthew 7:28-29**
  28When Jesus had finished these words, the crowds were amazed at His teaching; 29for He was teaching them as one having authority, and not as their scribes.

- **Matthew 7:21**
  21"Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven will enter.

- **Mark 4:11**
  11And He was saying to them, "To you has been given the mystery of the kingdom of God, but those who are outside get everything in parables…’

- **John 8:28**
  28So Jesus said, "When you lift up the Son of Man, then you will know that I am He, and I do nothing on My own initiative, but I speak these things as the Father taught Me.

- **Ephesians 2:5**
  5"even when we were dead in our transgressions, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved),’

Other Scriptures

- **Matthew 7:24**
- **James 2:18**
- **John 5:19**
- **John 5:26**
- **Genesis 2:17**
Other Scriptures (con’t.)

- Genesis 3:5
- Genesis 3:22

Main Points

- If we make the Beatitudes the focus of our lives, we will enter a state of “divine blessedness”
- The Beatitudes are a way of life
- True reality is not found in things, but inside of us
- The way to be filled is to become empty
  - We need to recognize that without God, we have no life
  - We need to purge (empty) ourselves of the worldly things that are filling the space that Jesus belongs in
- When we make practicing truth the goal in our lives, then happiness follows as a bi-product of serving God

Discussion Questions

1. Discuss what it means to “be filled is to become empty.”

2. Describe a time when you were serving God and didn’t feel anything at the time, but were made happy as a result of your service to Him.

3. Why is it so important to take into consideration the authority with which Jesus spoke?

4. Read Mark 4:11. Why is Jesus speaking in parables to the people?