

CRAZY HAPPY - Matthew 5:7-12
Andy Deane · 07/31/2022 · The Beatitudes (part 2)

Understanding today's Scripture will make sure we don't miss out on the blessed life God has for those who pursue it in unexpected, but clearly announced, places.

A BLESSED PERSON LOVES MERCY:

Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy. (Matthew 5:7)

- Crazy Happy: When you extend mercy to others.
- The Promise: You'll be shown mercy by God.
- Look at how mercy relates to both justice & grace:
 - Justice is when you give somebody what they deserve.
 - Mercy is when you don't give somebody what they deserve.
 - Grace is when you give somebody what they don't deserve.
- The happiest people in the world are quick to forgive.

A BLESSED PERSON LETS PURITY FOCUS THEIR VISION:

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. (Matthew 5:8)

- Crazy Happy: When you look for God at work all around you.
- The Promise: You're given spiritual vision.
- When we see God working in the world around us, that generates peace & joy.
- The pure at heart have a single-minded devotion to God that leads to a closer relationship with Him.
- The happiest people in the world prioritize God in their life.

A BLESSED PERSON IS A PEACEMAKER:

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. (Matthew 5:9)

- Crazy Happy: When you restore broken relationships.
- The Promise: You're recognized as true children of God.
- There is nothing more joy inducing than reconciliation.
- 2 Corinthians 5:18, *All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation.*
- The happiest people in the world broker peace deals.

This crazy happy life is dependent on the choices we make:

Galatians 5:16-17, 16 So I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. 17 For the flesh desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the flesh. They are in conflict with each other, so that you are not to do whatever you want.

A BLESSED PERSON STILL HAS A DIFFICULT LIFE:

Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. "Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets. (Matthew 5:10-12)

- Crazy Happy: When people come against Christ in you.
- The Promise: You're rewarded in heaven.
- Remember, this crazy happy life isn't always easy.
- 1 John 3:13, *Do not be surprised, my brothers and sisters, if the world hates you.*
- I love how radically realistic Jesus is. He doesn't say, "If you're happy in me, everything's going to go wonderfully." He says, "Even when things go bad, rejoice & be glad, because I'm still at work for good!"
- John 16:33, *"...In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."*
- The happiest people in the world still have some opposition.