

# Faith Talk

*Trinity Canadian Reformed Church*

*Worshipping Sundays 9 am and 3 pm, 2553 Binbrook Rd E*

Blessings from the Beatitudes

By Annie-Lynn VanAndel

The Beatitudes are part of the well-known Sermon on the Mount, which we find in Matthew 5. They are words spoken by Jesus and are our New Testament commandments for living before our God.

Each beatitude consists of two phrases, one telling us who is blessed, and the second saying why they are blessed. Let's look at the first one. "Blessed are the poor in spirit for theirs is the kingdom of heaven." We don't have to walk around with long faces in order to be blessed, but instead we have to look at ourselves and realize that we will never be truly happy here on this sin-filled earth. We are told we must yearn for true happiness. This can only be attained by looking to Jesus and His redeeming death and resurrection.

The kingdom of heaven is also mentioned. This describes the place where God works and rules. He will come again at the end of time and make all things pure and content. God is the only One who is capable of making us happy forever because He Himself is life and joy!

So, our job here on earth is simply to follow Him and His Word, the Bible. In everything we do, we have to show that we are His children, by living as He has prescribed in His Word. This also means showing love to our neighbours by being merciful (Matt. 5:7), and by being pure in heart (vs. 8).

How can we do this? We start by reading the Bible and attending church every Sunday to hear what the Lord says in His Word and to learn to apply this to our everyday lives. Prayer is also an important part of worship because we realize that we can only live this way when we ask the Lord for His help and guidance.

Well, that's a brief look at the Beatitudes. Begin your Bible studies today by reading Matthew 5.

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