

# **Reflections on Discipleship**

## **From the Sermon on the Mount**

### **Matthew 5-7**

**Navigators Men's Retreat**  
Camp David Conference Center  
Hesston, Kansas

March 28-29, 2025

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**Retreat Outline**

**Devotional 1**

A Different Character: The Setting and Eight Beautiful Attitudes. Matthew 4:19, 4:23-5:12

**Devotional 2**

A Different Influence: The Disciples' Influence Applied. Matthew 5:13-48

**Devotional 3**

Different Values: The Disciples' Values Evaluated. Matthew 6:1-34

**Devotional 4**

Different Choices: An Invitation to Disciplemaking. Lessons Learned. Matthew 7:1-28



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**Overview of the Sermon on the Mount**

**Text:** Matthew 5-7

**Three Groups**

The Disciples

The Multitude

The Religious Establishment

**Central Message:**

Be different than the culture and religious establishment around you in these areas:

Character

Influence

Righteousness

Relationships with God and man

Personal values

Choices

**The Teaching of the Sermon**

**The Primary Teaching:** - A picture of the character involved in being Christian -  
Matthew 5:1-12

**The Application:** - A picture of the challenge involved when Christian character  
impacts secular culture. Matthew 5:13-7:27

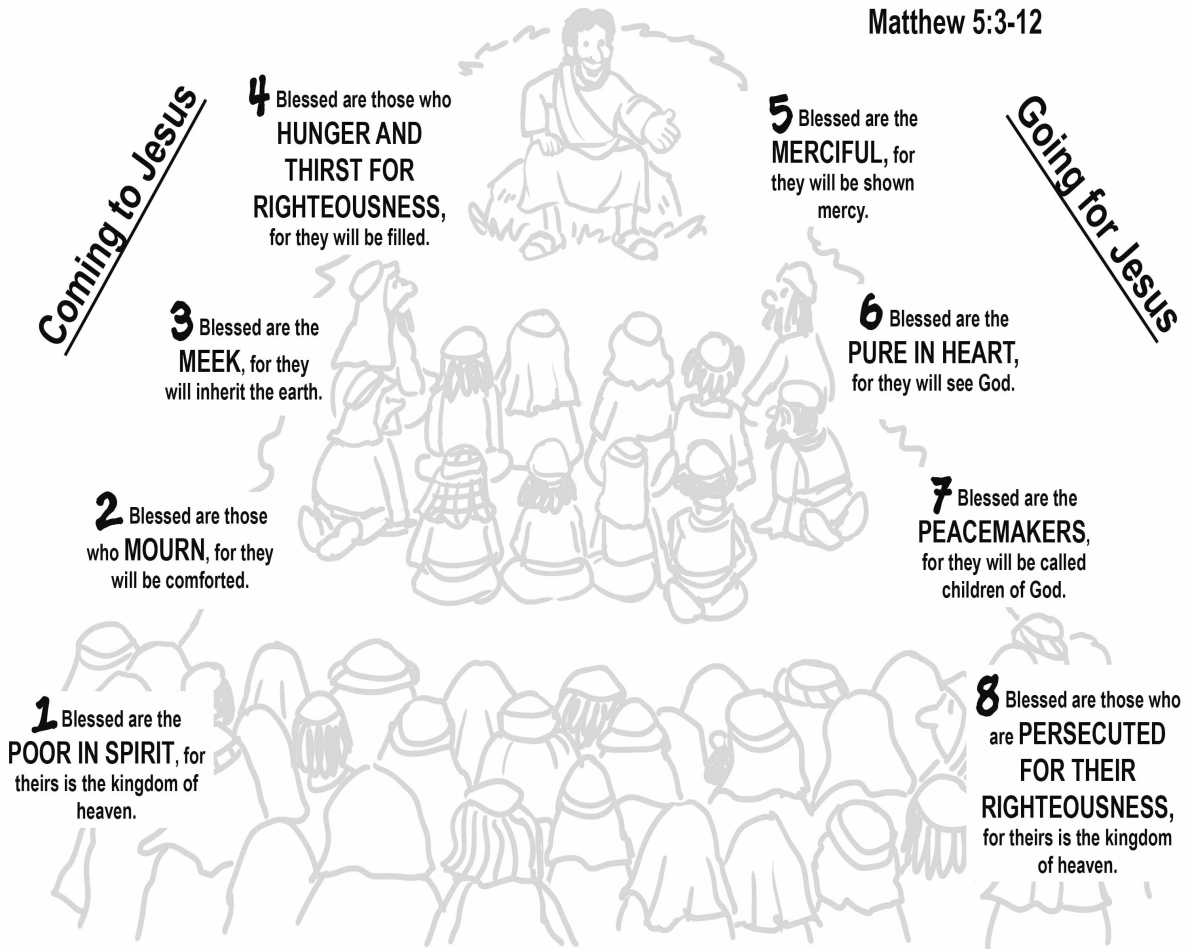
**The Strategy:**

To influence and impact secular culture with Christian character and values and strategically place the disciple as a bridge between God's love and man's need.



# The First Christian Retreat

Matthew 5:3-12



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**The Beatitudes**

<sup>3</sup>Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven.

<sup>4</sup>Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

<sup>5</sup>Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the Earth.

<sup>6</sup>Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be satisfied.

<sup>7</sup>Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.

<sup>8</sup>Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

<sup>9</sup>Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called the Sons of God.

<sup>10</sup>Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven.

<sup>11</sup>Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of Me.

<sup>12</sup>Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you...

**Salt and Light**

<sup>13</sup>“You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot.

<sup>14</sup>“You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. <sup>15</sup>Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead, they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. <sup>16</sup>In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

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**A Different Righteousness: Six Case Studies - Matthew 5:17-48**

For I tell you that unless your righteousness surpasses that of the Pharisees and the teachers of the law, you will certainly not enter the kingdom of heaven. Matthew 5:20

<b>You have heard it said</b>	<b>But I say</b>	<b>My remedy</b>	<b>Attitude</b>
Do not murder	Don't be angry	Make reconciliation a priority	Meekness
Do not commit adultery	Don't lust	Take immediate, radical action	Pure Heart
Divorce certificate	Hardness of Heart	Marital Faithfulness	Mercy
Do not break an oath	Don't swear at all.	Let your yes be yes and no, no	Pure Heart
Eye for eye . . .	Don't resist an evil person	Exceed their expectations.	Mercy
Hate your enemy	Love your enemy	Pray for those who persecute you	Mercy

**The Disciples Prayer: Matthew 6: 9-15**

**Putting God first petitions**

Our Father  
Hallowed be your name.  
Your Kingdom Come.  
Your will be done on earth as it is in Heaven.

**Personal petitions**

Give us.  
Forgive us.  
Lead us.  
Deliver us.

**The Heart Assessment Questions: Matthew 6:19-34**

1. How is my heart? Where is my heart?
2. A question of values: What is my treasure?
3. A question of perspective: How do I see things?
4. A question of allegiance: Who or what do I serve?
5. A question of anxiety: What am I worried about?
6. A question of ambition: What am I seeking?

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**Devotional #1 – The Different Character of the Disciple - Matthew 5:1-12**

**Discussion Questions:**

1. How does understanding the setting for the sermon help you see your role as a disciple or disciplemaker?
2. What do the Beatitudes teach us about being a disciple or disciplemaker?
3. Which beatitude has Jesus challenged you to think most about?
4. Is there a discipleship principle that you learn from the Beatitudes?

**Devotional # 2 – The Disciples' Influence Applied - Matthew 5:13-48**

**Discussion Questions**

1. What discipleship principles do I learn from the four metaphors on salt and light?
2. What platform has God given you for being salt and light in your sphere of influence? What barriers have you experienced?
3. How does Jesus teach his disciples to exceed the righteousness of the religious leaders? Why is this important as a disciplemaker?
4. What life principles did you learn from the 6 case studies Jesus gave his disciples?

**Devotional #3 – The Disciples' Different Values - Matthew 6:19-34**

**Discussion Questions:**

1. What did you learn about prayer from the model prayer Jesus gave his disciples'?
2. What affects our heart attitude?
3. How is aligning your values with the values of Jesus critical in your role as a disciple?
4. How will the answer to the heart questions on page 6 help you calibrate your heart condition?

**Devotional #4 – The Choices of the Disciple and Life Lessons Learned**

1. Are you on the broad road or narrow road 13-14
2. Are you one of the many or of the few? 13-14
3. Are you a false or true disciple? 15-20
4. Are you one of those who say, but don't do? 21-23
5. Are you a wise man who is putting into practice the words of Jesus? 24-27

**Discussion Questions:**

1. What did you learn about a judgmental attitude? Why is that important in disciplmaking?
2. What are the life choices a disciple of Jesus must make? How would your life be characterized by your answers to the 5 questions above?
3. How do people around you see the visible expression of God's nature, Kingdom and will in your life?
4. What are the life issues that affect discipleship? How will a fresh understanding of the Sermon on the Mount help my disciplmaking efforts?

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**Life Lessons Learned:**





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