

## TALK

1. Gather in the name of the Father, Son & Holy Spirit. Share your highs/lows. Read Matthew 5:1-12 . What strikes you as you read?
2. As the first major address of Jesus' public ministry, what makes the Beatitudes so compelling? Which of the groups that Jesus identifies as blessed do you feel closest to? Which of the groups do you feel least like? Why?
3. What does this sermon tell you about how Jesus sees blessedness? How is that like, or unlike, the way we ourselves see blessedness?
4. Why is it so hard to show mercy to people who have wronged us? How is this a culturally upside-down character trait?
5. What competes for your affections & distracts you from wholehearted devotion to Jesus in everything you do? How do you fight against that? Who's winning?
6. Which of the blessings do you find most challenging. Pray Jesus opens you to it.
7. How does a disciple's relationship with Jesus equip them to faithfully withstand persecution the way Jesus withstood it? How does our witness come into sharper focus when we are attacked for our faith?

## READ

Sunday	Romans 14:17-18	Thursday	Colossians 1:13-14
Monday	Ephesians 2:19-20	Friday	Zechariah 14:9
Tuesday	Isaiah 33:22	Saturday	1 Corinthians 4:20
Wednesday	1 Chronicles 29:11	MEMORIZE	1 Thessalonians 4:11-12

## PRAY

**PRAISE GOD** for blessing us with grace beyond our deserving.

**THANK JESUS** for blessing us with every blessing  
in the Father's realm.

**ASK THE HOLY SPIRIT** to move you in love to those near you  
this week for the sake of Christ's kingdom.

## BLESS

Make the sign of the cross on each other as you say:  
(Name), † child of God, the Father fills you with the  
life of Christ in all the small places.

Amen.



# Growing PRAISE

EVERY NIGHT...EVERY HOME...THE MOST IMPORTANT THINGS IN LIFE

22 - 28 January 2023

## VERSE OF THE WEEK — Matthew 5:11-12

*"God blesses you when people mock you & persecute you & lie about you & say all sorts of evil things against you because you are my followers. Rejoice & be glad! For a great reward awaits you in heaven. Remember, the ancient prophets were persecuted in the same way."*

## TABLE GRACE

*God of grace,  
sustain our bodies with this food,  
our hearts with your truth,  
and our lives with true friendship;  
for Christ's sake  
and for the glory of your kingdom...  
Amen.*

## 5 POINT CHECK-UP

1. Share your highs (good times) and lows (bad times)
2. Read a verse from the Bible.
3. What do you find "best" in the text? What is most confusing or hard to understand? What does God want you to do ?
4. Pray for one another (Praise God, Thank Jesus, Ask the Holy Spirit).
5. Bless one another.

## THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK:

*"The best interpretation  
of the Gospel  
is a community of men and women  
who believe it and live by it."*

-- Bishop Lesslie Newbigin

Living Water Fellowship, Wagga Wagga

Come...Grow...Go...Show

Living Water  
fellowship