

HOME CHURCH

June 20-26, 2021

Fort Langley E-Free Church

Passages:

- + Matthew 5:10-12
- + Hebrews 10:32-33
- + 1 Timothy 1:8
- + Philippians 1:7
- + Philippians 4:14
- + Colossians 1:24
- + Romans 12:18

The Beatitudes:

Matthew 5:1-12

Kingdom Reversalist: The Beatitudes

Passage: Matthew 5:10-12

This Week: Freed into Faithfulness

Speaker: Pastor Jason

Songs:

- King of Heaven
- 10,000 Reasons
- I Have Decided to Follow Jesus
- I Will Follow

Discussion

Two good ways to start each week:

- 1– Discuss general thoughts about the passage(s) and message.
- 2– Discuss what words or ideas God spoke to you through in the songs and worship. How did it tie in with the message?

Discussion for this week

1) Are Christians in Canada persecuted?

i- How would you typically approach or answer this question?

When we think about persecution it is important to note that there are varying levels of it but one stream: it is about opposition to Christ.

- Erik Raymond-

Source: *How to think about Persecution When You're Not Very Persecuted* (TGC)

ii- Both the quote from Erik Raymond and Matthew 5:10-12 talk about “varying levels” of persecution. Does this help us explain our understanding of persecution as Christians in Canada?

iii- We should not **clutch the idea that we face persecution too tightly** as an identity, but neither should we **let it go entirely**. What does it look like to “clutch tightly” or “let go entirely”?

2– i- Discuss the biblical idea of *partnership or sharing* in the suffering of persecuted Christians? See Heb 10:32-33, 1 Tim 1:8, Phil 1:7, Phil 4:14

ii- “Now I rejoice in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am filling up what is lacking in Christ’s afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church,” **Colossians 1:24**

Discuss Paul’s statement that his sufferings *fill up what is lacking in Christ’s afflictions for the sake of the body*. How does one believer’s suffering *fill up what is lacking* in the church.

3 How to gauge faithfulness when others respond unfavorably:

i- Focus on Faithfulness, not fruitfulness:

We focus on being faithful, leaving the results to God.

ii- Are you living out all of the other beatitudes?

The last beatitude assumes we are living out the other beatitudes when we are persecuted.

iii- Ask for help from God and others

When in doubt: Ask God for help: through prayer and His word.

Seek the perspective of a wise and godly friend

Which of these do you feel is the biggest challenge?

4– How should the examples of the persecution of apostles, early church and prophets help us to understand gauging faithfulness by the response of others to us?

(Think about gospel-sharing, standing on truth, having hard conversations)

5– What do you need prayer for in this area?



I THOUGH
NONE
GO WITH ME
STILL I WILL
FOLLOW