

9. What was the major takeaway statement near the end of the message?

A faithless life is _____,
_____.

10. According to this passage, how important is faith in understanding the purpose of life?

Making It Personal

1. What moments do you feel the most blessed or happy in your life? Does it in any way match what Jesus taught in the Beatitudes?
2. What are some of the ways you can put these lessons into practice this week?

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Sermon Notes



Life Group Study Notes

Message from Sunday October 12, 2014
Village Green Community Church
By Jon Korkidakis

Does Faith Really Matter?
What If – Part 5

This Week's Message

What gives life meaning and purpose? Is it our successes or achievements, or is it something else? Is it the impact we've had on others, or the legacy we leave behind? We all long for lives that are rich and meaningful. In this message we uncover what Jesus taught about life's ultimate purpose.

Study

1. What was the big takeaway for you from last week's study? Why?
2. This series has revolved around 3 arenas of life. What are they and take time to discuss the significance of each and which, if any, you struggle with?
 - a. _____.
 - b. _____.
 - c. _____.

The rest of the study is based on Matthew 5:3-16 so take time to read it. If you have time and if it's possible, read from a couple of different versions, like an NIV and The Message to get some contrasts.

3. Verses 3-10 are known as the Beatitudes (from the Latin meaning happiness). Discuss their unique nature and how are we to apply these to our lives?
4. What is the Kingdom of Heaven (same as Kingdom of God) and how does it relate to the Beatitudes? (See Romans 14:17 for a definition).
5. Imagine for a moment that you are in the crowd as Jesus gave this sermon. What do you suppose your reaction would be?
6. Verses 11 and 12 are considered the "9th" Beatitude and an expansion of verse 10. What role does suffering and persecution play in the life of faith?
7. Verses 13-16 are well known images of a believer's life (salt and light). Why would Jesus use these metaphors?
8. What are the implications given in these verses to those who are not salt and light as they should be?