

# May 13 / 2018 Week 6 The Kingdom of Heaven: BE-Tudes: A Heart of Inheritance

- The Forgotten God - Francis Chan

NOTE!

This is the last week of Formal Notes: Take some time to plan for a wrap up social and a few gatherings throughout the summer. Just because your group will not be meeting regularly should not mean you don't stay in touch and connect for the next 4 months (it has been an honor and privilege to provide these guides this past year, looking forward to the fall)- LH

**Open In Prayer:** 

Report: Did you ask someone "If you Can Pray for them" this Week?

### **Announcements:**

Pre Service Prayer Sundays @ 9:50 am.

**ASK and they Will Come**. Call & Invite someone to one of these events coming up.

Gals: Progressive Dinner Church Anniversary June 23-24

### What did you hear from or see from God this week?

Last Weeks Key point: We are obligated to be merciful, to have compassion on a person in unhappy circumstances. We are to actively desire to help remove those miseries. Just as it behooved Jesus to be merciful and free man from sin, a disciple of Jesus is obligated to be merciful to those he comes into contact with as we too have been given the ministry of reconciliation, as heirs, servants and representatives of Jesus. As representatives of Jesus, God himself, chosen by God to represent Him, as Jesus was, we are called, appointed, to make gifts and sacrifices for the sin of men.

**Read** Matthew 5:7 Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God. -Acts 15:8-9 "And God, who knows the heart, bore witness to them, by giving them the Holy Spirit just as he did to us, and he made no distinction between us and them, having cleansed their hearts by faith." ESV

**Key Point:** Point: We seek to keep our hearts pure in order to see God in our lives. Is this true of me? Is this a motivating factor in my desire to follow God?

Is this a motivating factor in my obedience to Him, my following or my desire? Do I hunger and thirst to see God? Then I will do the things that God commands and expects.

**Share:** Has there been someone in your life that exemplifies living with a pure heart or "godly life"? Can you share what that sort of example meant (means) to you?

This material is to spur questions and discussion. Let the Holy Spirit guide the conversation. You DO NOT have to "get through" all the material. But to affirm the "point" of the lesson.



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## PRAYER ITEM/

Refer to these during the week.
- Government - Prime Minister; - Premier

**Taylor W.** Australia ministry outside the Compound - Finances for 2nd year

# Kara H is Home Pray that she might find work for the summer quickly

There are others in our church family that are looking for work and direction this Spring too. Pray for openings and quidance.

#### Pray for Linda Forstell

- That her Leg would heal and that she finds the best care while this happens,
   Pray that the Holy Spirit would boost her spirit and that she can see Gods will in all this.
- Pray that everyone in our congregation feels connected and that we all reach out to those who are not. Especially now that our regular programs are winding down. Make an effort to invite people you regularly do not "hang with " over or out for a coffee, meal or fireside. Lets put into practise what the Holy Spirit is teaching / prompting us to do: Becoming disciples that make disciples. Pastor Larry

## What did you hear or see this week?

#### LIVE IT:

Reflecting on what the
Holy Spirit is revealing to you,
What is God asking you to
do about todays discussion?
Who will you allow to hold
you accountable to this?
For you personally, what
do you need to adjust in
your day to put the Holy Spirit
more center?

How can we your group, brothers and sisters help you?

**Discuss**: Pastor Shannon went on to share about the sense of entitlement in our culture today and asked the question:

## Am I entitled to God doing good things in my life because of what I have gone through?

#### Today - The Entitlement Time, not just Generation

<u>Entitlement</u> is the disease that I believe that I am exempt from responsibility and I am owed special treatment (Dr. John Townsend, The Entitlement Cure, p.19).

- We live today in what many call the entitlement generation believing that one is exempt from responsibility and owed special treatment.
- Everywhere we watch and read seems to have some element of entitlement ringing in it or through it.
  - o Demanded apologies for colonialization, We are all equal, created in God's image and have all equaly sinned and fallen short of God, and Jesus came to save all people.

This is what Jesus says by Matthew 5:8. We are not entitled to see God or God's glory in our lives, only if we pursue and take action to implement and practice the holiness of God, will we see the glory of God in our lives. So you and I may have obtained the ticket of salvation, but that does not entitle you and I to see the Conductor work in our lives, unless we conform to the conditions and stipulations of the ticket.

**Discuss:** Are we committed to walk in His ways and do His will; conforming to His righteousness and committed to pursuing purity of heart?

- He says obstain, do we obstain? He says avoid, do we avoid? He says do not do, do we not do? But yet we say bless me Father, though I sin before you willingly, continually without remorse.
- Do we believe that because we have the "Jesus ticket", we are covered and entitled to God's Kingdom no matter what we say or do? That's not true Christianity, but human religiosity, of which Jesus condemned the scribes and Pharisees for.
- Why do we get caught up in the world and the things of the world?
- *If we are HIS can we really say* We believe that because we have Jesus, we believe we are entitled to all the kingdom benefits *without the responsibility to walk in holiness*. I can have both benefits and residence of the Kingdom while enjoying and living by the world at the same time?

#### Discuss: How Does One Become "Pure in Heart" - Acts 15:8-9

- One becomes pure in heart by continually living out the expectations and commands of Christ.
- Not talking about initial salvation or belief in Jesus, but continuing obedience and following of Jesus.
- Believing, being and following the things that Jesus said to do and be.
- Prayer; Walking in the Spirit; Being gracious, loving, merciful, forgiving, confessing, gentleness, kindness, patience, hospitality; Bible reading; Serving; Doing good
   Cor. 7:1,1 Peter 1:22, Psalm 51:10

Pure in heart John 13:10-11 , Matthew 6:21 , Mark 4:15, Romans 2:5 , 1 Cor. 4:5 They Shall See God

<u>Heb. 12:14, 1</u> Jn 3:2, 3; <u>Rev. 22:4</u>; <u>1</u> Cor. 13:12, -<u>Hebrews 12</u>:14 ESV

✓ X-ref: <u>1 Thess. 4:7</u>

**Conclusion:** Think back to the examples we shared at the beginning of todays discussion. Are you living and pursuing a pure heart in that others are looking at you for inspiration and motivation? Is there enough Evidence to convict you of being a follower of the Nazerene?