

The Beatitudes (Matthew 5:17-20)

CONNECT—Think of a fun-icebreaker question to ask. For example, what is your favorite winter activity?

DISCUSS

What most stood out to you from Justin's sermon this past week? What was one of your big takeaways?

Read Matthew 5:17-20

What stands out to you from these verses?

In your own words, what does Jesus say about the Old Testament (Law and Prophets)? What are some ways that people wrongly approach the Old Testament?

What does it mean that Jesus fulfills the Old Testament? Can you give some specific parts of the Old Testament that point forward to or create anticipation for Jesus?

How is it possible for us to have a righteousness that exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees?

Let's test out some of what Jesus says in these verses:

Pick one or two of the following passages of Scripture:

- Isaiah 53
- Proverbs 9:1-12
- Psalm 2

How do these passages point forward to Jesus? How did Jesus' coming fulfill expectations in these verses? How did Jesus' coming defy some of the expectations created in these verses?

How does seeing Jesus as the fulfillment of the Old Testament create worship in us? How could Matthew 5 change the way that you read the Old Testament?

RELATE—Consider splitting into guys and girls for this section.

What has been your biggest spiritual highlight this week?

What has been your biggest spiritual struggle this week?

IMPACT (Invite, Engage, Share)

Have everyone identify one main action step that they are going to take in light of this passage.