



Empowering People To Change The World

The Core Values of Happiness, Part 4
Matthew 5:9-12

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***God can move mountains in my life
I will build up my faith with God's Holy Word
I will come alive in the power of the Holy Spirit With Jesus, nothing
will be impossible***

Each ring on American Ninja Warrior is necessary for the next ring. These are, what I call “Kingdom Values for the Kingdom Citizen.”

- If more of the people within the church would live these values, we would have thousands from outside the church pouring in.
- These are supernatural manifestations of the character of Christ.

Matthew 5:8

⁸ Blessed are the pure in heart, For they shall see God.

6th Kingdom Value: Wholehearted

- I know we talk often about being “wholehearted” around here. This is what we believe in. It is the best word to describe an attitude we have at The Road.
- People ask me all the time: what do you mean by being “wholehearted?” Is that just another word for being “all in?” I answer yes and no.
- Wholehearted means we will “see God”, which is another way of saying we will experience God’s goodness and love.

3 Characteristics of the Wholehearted Jesus Disciple:

1. Authentic Assessment of Oneself

- This means that you can look at yourself and God and live in reality. Self deception is the greatest obstacle to finding your true self and the True God who so loves you.
- Wholehearted people know they need to be changed! They know they are a sinner and need a savior.

2. Aware of One's Darkness

- The wholehearted disciple knows where his/her weaknesses and sin fault lines lie. Really able to face the damage of this world.
- Able to face it straight on!! Most people are half-hearted because they keep blaming others and avoiding their sin.
- But the wholehearted person does not stay there.

3. Acute Focus on Healing

- Desperation for God's healing touch. They focus on their character more than anything else!
- The wholehearted disciple knows he/she cannot change—only the release of the Holy Spirit within one's heart.

Matthew 5:9

Blessed are the peacemakers, For they shall be called sons of God.

7th Kingdom Value: Maker of Peace

- Jesus came as a reconciler, to reconcile sinful humanity into the peace of the Kingdom of God. We war within ourselves and the beginning of being a peacemaker is that YOU have made peace within.

- You cannot give away to others what you have not experienced personally. You have to have peace before you can make peace.
 - You become “sons/daughters of God.” When you came to love Christ, to really love Christ, you joined “the family business” of reconciliation! The ministry of reconciliation is our primary work on this earth.
 - The Prince of Peace calls us to be makers of peace wherever we live and go. This is what sons of God do!
 - Body Armor: We are to “shod our feet with the sandals of peace.”
- o A home of strife, anger, fights and arguments is not a Kingdom home!!
 - o A home that is full of righteousness, PEACE and joy is a Kingdom home.
- You cannot make peace if you do not have peace!! That is why you are a worshipper before you are a warrior! Worship brings peace.
 - Only a person of peace can make peace!!
 - This is why at The Road all of the staff have to sign a “Covenant of Harmony” and we encourage you to learn the ways of the covenant. I will cover this later in the sermon on the mount.
 - Now take note of what our 7th value does not say. It does not say, “blessed are the peace keepers.” As a matter of fact, if you truly are a peacemaker, you will make war.
- o War with complacency.
 - o War with your personal opinions.
 - o War with Satan and demons.
 - o War with strife and jealousy.
 - o “love, joy, peace, patience...” is a war cry and people will not like it, and that leads us into the last value.

Matthew 5:10-12

¹⁰ Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, For theirs is the kingdom of heaven. ¹¹ "Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for My sake. ¹² Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

8th Kingdom Value: Suffering for a Just Cause

- You can suffer two ways: for doing something dumb or for doing the right thing.

- o Some of you say you are being attacked by the devil when all you need to do is show up to work on time!

- o If you are not doing a good job at work and your boss tells you to pick it up or you will be fired. It is not a “demonic attack” but a “God wake-up call.”

- Kingdom value: suffering for a Kingdom cause!!
- Loyalty to God and His cause will always result in persecution!
- Righteousness is never popular!!
- Notice that the first and last value says “for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.” That is why these are kingdom values!
- These are the Happy Attitudes, the BE Attitudes!!
- Rejoice, rejoice, rejoice! You are joining up with the saints:

- o Dietrich Bonhoeffer who was martyred under Hitler.

- o MLK who was martyred for the Civil Rights of the black man.

- o The saints in Sudan who have been murdered for their faith.

- o The saints all over the former Soviet nation and Eastern block nations who were murdered under Stalin for their faith.

- The world hates God's righteousness!
- I believe this is exactly what Jesus was saying in

Luke 9:23-26

²³ Then He said to them all, "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me.

²⁴ For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will save it. ²⁵ For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and is himself destroyed or lost? ²⁶ For whoever is ashamed of Me and My words, of him the Son of Man will be ashamed when He comes in His own glory, and in His Father's, and of the holy angels.

NT Wright: "The work of the cross is not designed to rescue humans from creation, but to rescue them for creation."

This is what happened in Charleston after the shooting in Emanuel AME Church. They extended forgiveness; they showed mercy...John Shepherd, the producer of the film has said that they have had 18 consecutive packed out showings in Charleston. Charleston City Councilman Wendell Gilliard wants to be sure all the low income families in Charleston can see the movie. He proposes sharing it in Marion Square a big outdoor park area with big teletrons!