

The King's Purpose for You, Step Two (2)

Brandon Phillips / General

The King and His Glory / Matthew 5

In the His introduction to His Sermon on the Mount (Matt 5-7), the King's Manifesto for His Kingdom, King Jesus reveals nine steps to your purpose and ultimate blessing in this life and beyond.

Pre-sermon Comments

“Donaldson’s audience has been carefully cultivated over the years, attracting young viewers with fun but clean content that parents can trust. ~ Daniel Darling

“It’s such a sensitive topic for so many people around here. I believe there is a God, but there are so many different religions and so many people who believe passionately about these things. It’s hard to know which [religion] is right.” ~ Jimmy Donaldson aka MrBeast.

James 1:6 LSB

⁶ But he must ask in faith, doubting nothing, for the one who doubts is like the surf of the sea, driven and tossed by the wind.

Ephesians 4:14 LSB

¹⁴ so that we are no longer to be children, tossed here and there by waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, by craftiness in deceitful scheming,

Sermon Text

Matthew 5:1-12 LSB

¹ Now when Jesus saw the crowds, He went up on the mountain; and after He sat down, His disciples came to Him. ² And He opened His mouth and *began to* teach them, saying, ³ “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. ⁴ Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. ⁵ Blessed are the lowly, for they shall inherit the earth. ⁶ Blessed are those who hunger

and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied. ⁷ Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy. ⁸ Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God. ⁹ Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God. ¹⁰ Blessed are those who have been persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. ¹¹ “Blessed are you when *people* insult you and persecute you, and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of Me. ¹² “Rejoice and be glad, for your reward in heaven is great; for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

Proposition and Outline

In the His introduction to His Sermon on the Mount ([Matt 5-7](#)), the King’s Manifesto for His Kingdom, King Jesus reveals nine steps to your purpose and ultimate blessing in this life and beyond:

Step One: Possess True Poverty ([Matt 5:3](#)) [Review]

Step Two: Persevere in Learning What Offends God ([Matt 5:4](#))

Step Three: Pursue Lowliness ([Matt 5:5](#))

Step Four: Pursue Righteousness ([Matt 5:6](#))

Step Five: Prefer Mercy ([Matt 5:7](#))

Step Six: Pursue Inward Purity ([Matt 5:8](#))

Step Seven: Pursue Peace (Be a Peacemaker) ([Matt 5:9](#))

Step Eight: Patiently Endure Persecution for Righteousness’ Sake ([Matt 5:10](#))

Step Nine: Patiently Endure Libel ([Matt 5:11](#))

Further History and Context of Matthew’s Gospel

Further Background to the Gospel of Matthew

Everybody memorizes, everybody recites, everybody sings the Lord's Prayer as it's recorded in Matthew not in as its recorded to Luke. ~ Keith Essex

Matthew 6:10-13 KJV

¹⁰ Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as *it is* in heaven. ¹¹ Give us this day our daily bread. ¹² And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. ¹³ And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

Matthew 5:27-30 LSB

²⁷ “You have heard that it was said, ‘YOU SHALL NOT COMMIT ADULTERY’; ²⁸ but I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman to lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart. ²⁹ “But if your right eye makes you stumble, tear it out and throw it from you; for it is better for you to lose one of the parts of your body, than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. ³⁰ “And if your right hand makes you stumble, cut it off and throw it from you; for it is better for you to lose one of the parts of your body, than for your whole body to go into hell.

The Author - Matthew the Tax Collector [Levi]

[Matthew 10:3](#) (LSB) ³ Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus;

Matthew 5:3-4 LSB

³ “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. ⁴ Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

Matthew 9:9 LSB

⁹ And as Jesus went on from there, He saw a man called Matthew, sitting in the tax office; and He said to him, “Follow Me!” And he stood up and followed Him.

[Matthew 9:10](#) (LSB) ¹⁰ Then it happened that as Jesus was reclining at the table in the house, behold, many tax collectors and sinners came and were dining with Jesus and His disciples.

[Matthew 9:11](#) (LSB) ¹¹ And when the Pharisees saw *this*, they said to His disciples, “Why is your Teacher eating with the tax collectors and sinners?”

[Matthew 9:12](#) (LSB) ¹² But when Jesus heard *this*, He said, “It is not those who are healthy who need a physician, but those who are sick.

[Mark 2:14-15](#) (LSB) ¹⁴ And as He passed by, He saw Levi the son of Alphaeus sitting in the tax office, and He said to him, "Follow Me!" And he stood up and followed Him. ¹⁵ And it happened that as He was reclining at the table in his house, many tax collectors and sinners were reclining with Jesus and His disciples. For there were many of them, and they were following Him.

[Luke 5:27-29](#) (LSB) ²⁷ And after that He went out and noticed a tax collector named Levi sitting in the tax office, and He said to him, "Follow Me." ²⁸ And he left everything behind, and rose up and *began to follow Him.* ²⁹ And Levi gave a big reception for Him in his house; and there was a great crowd of tax collectors and other people who were reclining at the table with them.

He goes from being a helper of the priests to a helper of the Herods who were the client kings of Rome. You can see how far Matthew had sunk. ~ Keith Essex

By God's grace, Matthew went from being a helper of the priests to being a helper of the Herod's to becoming the helper of Jesus - our Great High Priest! What an incredible transformation!

As you consider God's grace in Matthew's life - I want you to think about your own situation.

Some of you-

- Have been Christians for many years - I want you to reflect on your walk with Christ considering His words.
- Are relatively new believers - I want you to reflect on what Christ has done in your life.
- Are not believers - I want you to consider your situation.
 - You need to -
 - Come to the place Jesus describes here.
 - Acknowledge your poverty of spirit - your helplessness and your hopelessness.
 - Mourn over your sin.

Review

Matthew 5:3-4 LSB

³ “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. ⁴ Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

What does it mean to be blessed?

Blessing is the state of happiness in our inward selves. It comes from the acknowledgement of the reality of how fortunate we are to have a relationship with God the Father through Jesus the Son. This relationship produces an inner bliss and contentment that comes from an ever-increasing recognition of all that God has done for us and that no circumstance or set of circumstances can change our happiness or contentment in Christ.

Who is the source of blessing?

God Himself is the source of this blessing. Therefore, we can only be truly blessed by partaking in His divine nature. As the psalmist promises, “In His presence is fullness of joy and in His right hand are pleasures forever” ([Ps 16:11](#)).

Psalm 16:11 LSB

¹¹ You will make known to me the path of life; In Your presence is fullness of joy; In Your right hand there are pleasures forever.

Who are the Blessed?

The blessed are those who have believed in the promises of Christ and are living in the present reality of the Holy Spirit living within them with an ever-increasing understanding of what He is accomplishing through them.

[Matthew 5:3](#) (LSB) ³ “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

What does it mean to be Poor in Spirit?

Poor in Spirit: Jesus is saying that God blesses a person who recognizes their spiritual bankruptcy or destitution. They must recognize their lostness in sin, hopelessness in life, and helplessness to save themselves. They must see that they are utterly unworthy of God and are completely dependent upon Him to save them. They must cry out like Isaiah, “Woe is me, for I am ruined! For I am a

man of unclean lips, And I live among a people of unclean lips; For my eyes have seen the King, Yahweh of hosts” ([Isa 6:5](#)).

Isaiah 6:5 LSB

⁵ Then I said, “Woe is me, for I am ruined! For I am a man of unclean lips, And I live among a people of unclean lips; For my eyes have seen the King, Yahweh of hosts.”

[Matthew 5:3](#) (LSB) ³ “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Step Two: Persevere in Learning What Offends God ([Matt 5:4](#))

Matthew 5:4 LSB

⁴ Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

What does Jesus mean by mourning?

Godly mourning is a deep and abiding sorrow that is produced by the knowledge of our sin and how far we fall short of God’s glory. This type of mourning can only be experienced by those who have recognized their spiritual poverty and desperate need of God’s mercy and grace. We see this type of mourning in the lives of saints like Isaiah ([Isa 6:5](#)) and David ([Ps 32:3-4](#) & [Ps 51:3-4](#)).

Isaiah 6:1 LSB

¹ In the year of King Uzziah’s death I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lifted up, with the train of His robe filling the temple.

Psalm 32:3-4 LSB

³ When I kept silent *about my sin*, my bones wasted away Through my groaning all day long. ⁴ For day and night Your hand was heavy upon me; My vitality was drained away *as with the heat of summer*. Selah.

Psalm 51:3-4 LSB

³ For I know my transgressions, And my sin is ever before me. ⁴ Against You, You only, I have sinned *And* done what is evil in Your sight, So that You are justified when You speak And pure when You judge.

[Psalm 32:1-2](#) (LSB) ¹ How blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, Whose sin is covered! ² How blessed is the man whose iniquity Yahweh will not take into account, And in whose spirit there is no deceit!

Romans 3:23 LSB

²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

How does God bless our mourning?

Matthew 5:4 LSB

⁴ Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

What does comforted mean?

John 14:16-17 LSB

¹⁶ “And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Advocate, that He may be with you forever; ¹⁷ the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not see Him or know Him. You know Him because He abides with you and will be in you.

[Isaiah 61:2-3](#) (LSB) ² To proclaim the favorable year of Yahweh And the day of vengeance of our God, To comfort all who mourn, ³ To grant those who mourn *in Zion*, Giving them a headdress instead of ashes, The oil of rejoicing instead of mourning, The mantle of praise instead of a spirit of fainting. So they will be called oaks of righteousness, The planting of Yahweh, that He may show forth His beautiful glory.

Psalm 23:4 LSB

⁴ Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I fear no evil, for You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.

2 Corinthians 1:3 LSB

³ Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort,

2 Corinthians 1:4 LSB

⁴ who comforts us in all our affliction so that we will be able to comfort those who are in any affliction with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God.

[2 Corinthians 1:1](#) (LSB) ¹ Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy *our* brother, **To** the church of God which is at Corinth with all the saints who are throughout Achaia:

2 Corinthians 1:5 LSB

⁵ For just as the sufferings of Christ abound to us, so also our comfort abounds through Christ.

The blessing of God's comfort is reserved exclusively for the contrite of heart. It is only those who mourn for sin who will have their tears wiped away by the loving hand of Jesus Christ. ~ John MacArthur

[2 Thessalonians 2:16](#) (LSB) ¹⁶ Now may our Lord Jesus Christ Himself and God our Father, who has loved us and given us eternal comfort and good hope by grace,

How do we receive this comfort?

Romans 7:24 LSB

²⁴ Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from the body of this death?

1 John 1:9 LSB

⁹ If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Matthew 11:28 LSB

²⁸ "Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest.

As often as we confess our sin, He is faithful to forgive, and for as long as we mourn over sin He is faithful to comfort. ~ John MacArthur

Who is the Man who Mourns?

[The man who mourns] is a sorrowful man, but he is not morose. He is a sorrowful man, but he is not a miserable man. He is a serious man, but he is not a solemn man. He is a sober-minded man, but he is not a sullen man. He is a grave man, but he is never cold or prohibitive. There is with his gravity a warmth and attraction. This man, in other words, is always serious; but he does not have to affect the seriousness. The true Christian is never a man who has to put on an appearance of either sadness or joviality. No, no; he is a man who looks at life seriously; he contemplates it spiritually, and he sees in it sin

and its effects. He is a serious, sober-minded man. His outlook is always serious, but because of these views which he has, and his understanding of truth, he also has ‘a joy unspeakable and full of glory’. So he is like the apostle Paul, ‘groaning within himself’, and yet happy because of his experience of Christ and the glory that is to come. The Christian is not superficial in any sense, but is fundamentally serious and fundamentally happy. You see, the joy of the Christian is a holy joy, the happiness of the Christian is a serious happiness. None of that superficial appearance of happiness and joy! No, no; it is a solemn joy, it is a holy joy, it is a serious happiness; so that, though he is grave and sober-minded and serious, he is never cold and prohibitive. Indeed, he is like our Lord Himself, groaning, weeping, and yet, ‘for the joy that was set before him’ enduring the cross, despising the shame. ~ Martyn Lloyd Jones

Practical Steps for Mourning and Receiving Supernatural Comfort

You need to develop a deep doctrine of sin

Romans 7:18 LSB

¹⁸ For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh; for the willing is present in me, but the working out of the good *is* not.

Jeremiah 17:9 LSB

⁹ “The heart is more deceitful than all else And is desperately sick; Who can know it?”

You need to develop a clear understanding of God’s holiness

[Isaiah 6:1-5](#) (LSB) ¹ In the year of King Uzziah’s death I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lifted up, with the train of His robe filling the temple. ² Seraphim stood above Him, each having six wings: with two he covered his face, and with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. ³ And one called out to another and said, “Holy, Holy, Holy, is Yahweh of hosts; The whole earth is full of His glory.” ⁴ And the foundations of the thresholds shook at the voice of him who called out, while the house of God was filling with smoke. ⁵ Then I said, “Woe is me, for I am ruined! For I am a man of unclean lips, And I live among a people of unclean lips; For my eyes have seen the King, Yahweh of hosts.”

Revelation 1:13–17 LSB

¹³ and in the middle of the lampstands / saw one like a son of man, clothed in a robe reaching to the feet, and girded across His chest with a golden sash. ¹⁴ And His head and His hair were white like white wool, like snow; and His eyes were like a flame of fire. ¹⁵ His feet *were* like burnished bronze, when it has been made to glow in a furnace, and His voice *was* like the sound of many waters, ¹⁶ and having in His right hand seven stars, and a sharp two-edged sword which comes out of His mouth, and His face was like the sun shining in its power. ¹⁷ And when I saw Him, I fell at His feet like a dead man. And He placed His right hand on me, saying, “Do not fear; I am the first and the last,

2 Corinthians 12:2–4 LSB

² I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago—whether in the body I do not know, or out of the body I do not know, God knows—such a man was caught up to the third heaven. ³ And I know how such a man—whether in the body or apart from the body I do not know, God knows— ⁴ was caught up into Paradise and heard inexpressible words, which a man is not permitted to speak.

Matthew 17:2 LSB

² And He was transfigured before them; and His face shone like the sun, and His garments became as white as light.

Matthew 17:5–7 LSB

⁵ While he was still speaking, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them, and behold, a voice out of the cloud said, “This is My beloved Son, with whom I am well-pleased; listen to Him!” ⁶ And when the disciples heard *this*, they fell on their faces and were terrified. ⁷ And Jesus came to *them* and touched them and said, “Get up, and do not be afraid.”

You need to develop a high doctrine of joy

1 Peter 1:8 LSB

⁸ And though you have not seen Him, you love Him, and though you do not see Him now, but believe in Him, you rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory,

1 Peter 1:9 LSB

⁹ receiving as the outcome of your faith the salvation of your souls.

You need to read, study, and meditate on Scripture

2 Peter 1:18-21 LSB

¹⁸ and we ourselves heard this utterance made from heaven when we were with Him on the holy mountain. ¹⁹ And we have as more sure the prophetic word, to which you do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star arises in your hearts. ²⁰ Know this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture comes by one's own interpretation. ²¹ For no prophecy was ever made by the will of man, but men being moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

2 Timothy 3:16-17 LSB

¹⁶ All Scripture is God-breathed and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness, ¹⁷ so that the man of God may be equipped, having been thoroughly equipped for every good work.

You need to pray that God will reveal the truth of these things to you

Mark 11:24 LSB

²⁴ "For this reason I say to you, all things for which you pray and ask, believe that you have received them, and they will be *granted* to you.

Conclusion:

If the Holy Spirit has laid anything on your heart in the preaching of this sermon, please contact one of the leaders or speak to a mature Christian to answer your questions. I can be contacted at brandon.phillips@gracegainesville.org.

Join us next week as we continue to look at Jesus's nine steps to your purpose and ultimate blessing in this life and beyond.

Quotes

The philosophy of the world is, Forget your troubles, turn your back upon them, do everything you can not to face them. ~ Martyn Lloyd Jones

The whole organization of life, the pleasure mania, the money, energy and enthusiasm that are expended in entertaining people, are all just an

expression of the great aim of the world to get away from this idea of mourning and this spirit of mourning. ~ Martyn Lloyd Jones

Every revival proves clearly that men who are outside the Church always become attracted when the Church herself begins to function truly as the Christian Church, and as individual Christians approximate to the description here given in these Beatitudes. ~ Martyn Lloyd Jones

Conviction must of necessity precede conversion, a real sense of sin must come before there can be a true joy of salvation. ~ Martyn Lloyd Jones

Step Three: Pursue Lowliness ([Matt 5:5](#))

Step Four: Pursue Righteousness ([Matt 5:6](#))

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