



SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Week of December 5, 2021

Please use these questions to stay connected as a church to meditate on the same sermon preached from God's Word this week. May this be a fruitful time for the building up of our church and for the spread of the gospel.

Sermon Text

Luke 6:20-26

[20] And he lifted up his eyes on his disciples, and said: "Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. [21] "Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you shall be satisfied. "Blessed are you who weep now, for you shall laugh. [22] "Blessed are you when people hate you and when they exclude you and revile you and spurn your name as evil, on account of the Son of Man! [23] Rejoice in that day, and leap for joy, for behold, your reward is great in heaven; for so their fathers did to the prophets. [24] "But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation. [25] "Woe to you who are full now, for you shall be hungry. "Woe to you who laugh now, for you shall mourn and weep. [26] "Woe to you, when all people speak well of you, for so their fathers did to the false prophets.

If you were not able to listen to this week's sermon, then please refer to this link to listen prior to answering these questions, <http://hawaiikaichurch.org/sermononline>

Summary

This week we were challenged with a passage that can be very difficult to believe. Jesus' beatitudes and woes are contrary to almost everything we understand from a worldly perspective. Jesus explains that we are blessed when we are poor, hungry, weep, and hated. He also pronounces woe upon those who are full, who laugh, and are spoken well of. In making these proclamations, Jesus reveals that true blessing comes from knowing Christ and cannot be found in even the best this world has to offer.

Discussion Questions

1. How can a person be blessed even though they are poor, hungry, weeping and hated? What do you think Jesus wants us to understand about the true source of blessing?
2. Describe the “pearl of great price” (Matthew 13:45-46). Why is it so valuable? How does it help the Christian through poverty, want, sadness and persecution?
3. Is it possible to be both cool/popular and Christian at the same time? Why or why not?
4. What differences would you see between a person who lives for the present, and a person who lives for the future? How does a focus on the future reality of heaven help a Christian live through “momentary light affliction”?
5. Jesus could have been the richest, coolest, most popular, all-powerful person in the history of the world. Yet we are told in Isaiah 53 that “*He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief; and as one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not.*” Why do you think Jesus chose to live and die in the manner in which He did, and how does this influence the way you look at your own life?