

1When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on the side of a mountain and sat down. Jesus' disciples gathered around him,

2and he taught them:

3God blesses those people who depend only on him. They belong to the kingdom of heaven!

4God blesses those people who grieve. They will find comfort!

5God blesses those people who are humble. The earth will belong to them!

6God blesses those people who want to obey him more than to eat or drink. They will be given what they want!

7God blesses those people who are merciful. They will be treated with mercy!

8God blesses those people whose hearts are pure. They will see him!

9God blesses those people who make peace. They will be called his children!

10God blesses those people who are treated badly for doing right. They belong to the kingdom of heaven.

11God will bless you when people insult you, mistreat you, and tell all kinds of evil lies about you because of me.

12Be happy and excited! You will have a great reward in heaven. People did these same things to the prophets who lived long ago.

(Matthew 5:1-12)