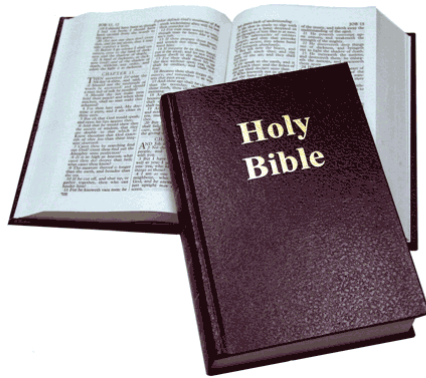


The Sermon on the Mount

STUDY 2

Reading: Matthew 5:3-4



The Transformation of the Disciple

Home Fellowship Group Bible Study Questions

Tuesday 22nd/Wednesday 23rd January 2013

The first sixteen verses of chapter 5 are about the character of the Christian; what we are intended to be. The remainder of the Sermon on the Mount is about the conduct of the Christian; what we are intended to do. In this study we look at the first two beatitudes.

- 1) What does Jesus mean by the word 'blessed' and how does that compare with the popular use of its meaning today?

Note: The beatitudes (the word means 'blessed') are not a description of eight different people; but one person in which eight ingredients will make them truly 'blessed'.

- 2) What does it mean to be poor in spirit? What does it not mean?
- 3) Why does Jesus say that the kingdom of heaven belongs to such people and how is the contrast with poverty so apt?
- 4) What does verse 4 mean by 'mourning'?
- 5) How does God comfort us in our mourning?
- 6) How can we reconcile this idea that there can be happiness in mourning?