

THE **crossing** **small groups**

Jesus's Version of the Good Life | Luke 6 Sermon Discussion Guide

Purpose of Discussion: To identify how the kingdom of God differs from what the world values and to reflect on your need for Jesus.

Icebreaker: Share a story of a time growing up when you went along with something everyone else was doing, not because you wanted to, but because it was trendy or popular.

Transition: As Keith said, most of us don't like to admit how easily influenced we are. But in reality, we all share the human desire to fit in and become like the people around us. And this makes it very hard to be Christian. Jesus's kingdom runs counter to our own sinful nature and the world we live in.

Read:

[Luke 6:20-23](#)

²⁰ Looking at his disciples, he said:

"Blessed are you who are poor,
for yours is the kingdom of God.

²¹ Blessed are you who hunger now,
for you will be satisfied.

Blessed are you who weep now,
for you will laugh.

²² Blessed are you when people hate you,
when they exclude you and insult you
and reject your name as evil,
because of the Son of Man.

²³ "Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, because great is your reward in heaven. For that is how their ancestors treated the prophets.

1. Based on this passage, what sort of person will flourish in the kingdom of God?

2. Why do these characteristics often lead to a closer relationship with God?
3. According to Jesus, what does it mean to be blessed?

Read:

[Luke 6:24-26](#)

- ²⁴ "But woe to you who are rich,
for you have already received your comfort.
- ²⁵ Woe to you who are well fed now,
for you will go hungry.
- Woe to you who laugh now,
for you will mourn and weep.
- ²⁶ Woe to you when everyone speaks well of you,
for that is how their ancestors treated the false prophets.

4. What makes it harder for people who are rich in this life to draw close to God?
5. What does it mean to be blessed according to the world around us?
6. In what ways do you see yourself pursuing the world's definition of blessing?
7. What fears or desires motivate you to pursue these worldly values? What are you afraid might happen, what might you lose, if you don't get them?

Sharing and Prayer:

As Keith said, admitting we need Jesus's help can be offensive to our self-sufficiency. But the fears we identified in the previous question reveal areas of need in our lives.

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Have everyone in the group answer the following questions:

- How are you trusting the things of the world to meet your needs apart from Jesus?
- How is Jesus a better, more reliable source of help in this area?

Once the group has shared, close in prayer. Ask God to open your eyes to your need for him and to help you see the ways your earthly riches are keeping you out of God's kingdom.