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THE HIGH COST OF FOLLOWING JESUS

*“Now when he saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him, and he began to teach them, saying. . .”
Matthew 5:1-2*

Memory Verse

*“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.”
Matthew 5:3*

When you think of a person who is “blessed,” what do you think of?

The popular idea of happiness is having

the right _____

God’s path to happiness is having

the right _____

*“For I tell you that unless your righteousness surpasses that of the Pharisees and the teachers of the law, you will certainly not enter the kingdom of heaven.”
Matthew 5:20*

What does it mean to be “poor in spirit”?

It begins with an awareness of your own

when you see yourself in comparison to

Join us next weekend as we continue our series: *Upside Down* with the message “*Jesus On Problems*”

MY NEXT STEP IS TO . . .

- Trust Jesus as my Savior and Lord for the first time today and begin to follow Him
- Memorize Matthew 5:3
- Give God first place in my life by giving Him the first part of my _____
- Ask God to use the protests taking place across the country and around the world to lead His church to “hunger and thirst for righteousness” Matthew 5:6

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“To some who were confident of their own righteousness and looked down on everybody else, Jesus told this parable: “Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood up and prayed about himself: ‘God, I thank you that I am not like other men—robbers, evildoers, adulterers—or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get.’ “But the tax collector stood at a distance. He would not even look up to heaven, but beat his breast and said, ‘God, have mercy on me, a sinner.’ “I tell you that this man, rather than the other, went home justified before God. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.”

Luke 18:9-14

Which attitude do you have?

“It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners.”

Mark 2:17

How can I experience the blessings these beatitudes promise?

*“Your heavenly Father already knows perfectly well what you need and he will give it to you if you give him first place in your life and live as he wants you to.” *Matthew 6:33**

Four Commitments Of ‘First Place Living’

1. I will give God the first part of my _____

“In the morning, O LORD, you hear my voice; in the morning I lay my requests before you and wait in expectation.”

Psalms 5:3

“Anyone who listens to my teaching and obeys me is wise, like a person who builds a house on solid rock.”

Matthew 7:24

2. I will give God the first part of my _____

“You should not stay away from the church meetings, as some are doing, but you should meet together and encourage each other.”

Hebrews 10:25

3. I will give God the first part of my _____

“Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

Matthew 6:19-21

“The purpose of tithing is to teach you always to put God first in your lives.”

Deuteronomy 14:23

4. I will give God the first part of my _____

“Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?” Jesus replied: ‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.”

Matthew 22:36-40

“Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect.”

1 Peter 3:15

“They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.”

Acts 2:42