



Summer Blockbuster Reading Challenge

3 months—4 Gospels—Go!

SUNDAY, JUNE 5, 2022



Take your Pulse

What is your favorite experience in going to weekly worship?

What do you wish you could spend more time doing this weekend?

Today's Reading

Matthew Chapter 5

This is the beginning of the Sermon of the Mount. The sermon continues through chapters 6 and 7. Jesus is offering several nuggets. Matthew has really collected several of Jesus' sayings and placed them in a sermon format. I am guessing if I gave a sermon this disjointed, most would leave confused, much like reading this section can be confusing. There is a certain holiness piety that Jesus is addressing here, demonstrating just how high the bar is when we strive to live the most holiest life possible. Jesus also demonstrates the demands for failing to live up to that most holiest of life are severe. And yet through all our failings as people, the blessings are still given to all God's beloved children.



Start the Thinking

What is an aspect of faithful living that you have always believed if you didn't live perfectly you would be excluded from God's Kingdom? How might Jesus, using his teaching style of his sermon on the Mount, assure you that you are still welcome in the Kingdom even when you fail to live by your arbitrary standards of faith?



Conversing with God

God of the lofty mountains, we come to listen to your Word dispel the myths of our human pieties, we come to listen to your Word impart nuggets of wisdom to encourage our faithful living. Open our ears and hearts and minds to be strengthened in faithful living, may we help others who come trembling before you to feel the same grace we have first felt as we experience living in your kingdom today. In Jesus' holy name we pray. Amen



Be blessed

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine brightly upon you that you experience all God's grace. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

In the name of the Father, and the + Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen