



## Week 2: Our Direction

True blessing doesn't come from climbing higher on the world's ladder of success but from stepping down into the way of Jesus. The Beatitudes flip our assumptions about strength, control, and fulfillment, showing that what feels like loss in the world's eyes actually leads to the life we long for. This matters because it calls us out of spiritual frustration and into the transformation of becoming who we were made to be: children of God living with His presence, His purpose, and His promise.

### Discussion Questions:

1. "When you were a kid, what did 'success' look like to you, and how has your view of success changed over time?"
2. **Read Matthew 5:1-12.** Why is admitting our poverty of spirit so difficult, and how does that first step change the way we relate to God and others?
3. Jesus flips the world's definition of "the good life" upside down. Which of the Beatitudes feels most counterintuitive or challenging to you right now, and why?
4. You heard that "the way up is down." How have you experienced God's blessing not by climbing higher but by surrendering or stepping lower?
5. Jesus promises both "now" (theirs is the Kingdom) and "not yet" (they will be comforted, filled, etc.). How does holding this tension help you face frustration, discouragement, or suffering?
6. Which of the Beatitudes do you sense God moving you to grow in right now, and what might that look like in your daily life?