



Pastor Kris Beckert
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Stealing Happiness
Matthew 5:1-12

What do you do when life doesn't go as planned?

Matthew 5:1-5 *Seeing the crowds, he went up on the mountain, and when he sat down his disciples came to him. 2 And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying: He said: 3 "Happy are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. 4 Happy are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. 5 Happy are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. 6 Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. 7 Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy. 8 Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. 9 Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God..."*

You can surrender to...

I. The story _____ tell you.

Matthew 5:10 *"...Happy are those who are **persecuted** because of righteousness, for theirs is the **kingdom of heaven**.*

II. The story _____ tell you.

Matthew 5:11 *Happy are **you** when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you **because of me**.*

III. The story _____ tells you.

Matthew 5:12 ***Rejoice and be glad**, because great is your **reward in heaven**, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you*

Point:

Doggy Bag: Something to take home and chew on!



1. Which "happiness robber" do you struggle with more—others or yourself?
2. What story has someone told you that caused you to surrender your happiness? Give up your faith?
3. When have you gotten in the way of someone experiencing God's grace and happiness?
4. How does the way you interpret people and situations impact your ability to experience Christ's happiness? Do you tend to think about the "worst case scenario?" Do you give up easily? Do you dwell on things?
5. Have you surrendered your situation to Christ? How can you persevere for His purpose and find peace?
6. How has this message and series changed the way you see true, lasting happiness?

If you'd like to talk personally and confidentially w/ Pastor Kris about your relationship with Christ, please email krisbeckert@thevineva.org to set up an appointment.