

COMMUNITY GROUP STUDY GUIDE

Happy are Some, Sad are Others

LUKE 6:17-26

OVERVIEW

Luke is the longest and most comprehensive of the four Gospels, presenting Jesus as the Perfect Man who came to save sinful men. Growing belief and growing opposition develop side by side. Those who believe his claims are challenged to count the cost of discipleship; those who oppose him will not be satisfied until the Son of Man hangs lifeless on a cross. But the resurrection ensures that his ministry of seeking and saving the lost will continue through his disciples once they have been equipped with the indwelling Holy Spirit. Luke reveals that Jesus is the King, and he has come to inaugurate his Kingdom. (Adapted from *Talk Through the Bible*).

APPLY // LUKE 6:1-16

1. Read Luke 6:1-16.
2. In what ways are we tempted to use God's law merely as rules to follow rather than allowing it to point us to Jesus, the gracious Ruler?
3. What aspects of Jesus' character revealed in this passage stir your affections for him? Why?
4. Which "voices" to you need to take to Jesus, the Lord of the Sabbath?

STUDY // LUKE 6:17-26

Study the passage of Scripture aiming to faithfully interpret and apply what you observe. Remember we study God's word not just to increase our knowledge, but to increase our trust in and treasuring of Jesus Christ.

Overview: We have two options. We can choose Jesus and the hardships of life, and receive ultimate glory and happiness. Or we can ignore Jesus choosing by pursuing an earthly life of pleasure, and receive ultimate suffering and woe.

1. Read Luke 6:20-26
2. What do you notice about the overall "structure" of Jesus' sermon? What can we learn from this? Identify and discuss the contrasts Jesus is making throughout the sermon.
3. What does Jesus mean when he says some are "Blessed"? What does Jesus mean when he says to others, "woe to you"?
4. Jesus says those who are "poor," "hungry," "weep now," and are hated/reviled are blessed. What do each of these things mean?
 - a. Note the hated/reviled Jesus speaks of as being blessed is "on account of the Son of man." What does this mean? Why is this qualification important?
5. Notice that Jesus says to the "poor" yours "is" (present tense) the kingdom of God. But to the hungry/sad/hated the reward "shall be" (future tense). What do these rewards mean and why the difference in present/future tense?

6. Jesus says “woe to you” to those who are “rich,” “full now,” “laugh now,” and are well-thought of. What do each of these things mean?
 7. If you had to summarize the main idea of this sermon in one or two sentences, what would you say?
 8. What do you learn about Jesus from this passage?
 9. How do we refrain from treating this passage as moralistic teaching? How do these verses point us to the cross of Christ?
- General Bible study questions:
 - **God:** What does this passage teach me about the character of God?
 - **Humanity:** What does this passage teach me about myself and my need for God?
 - **Christ:** How does this passage teach me that God has met my needs in the person and work of Jesus Christ?
 - **Response:** How should I respond with my affections and my actions?
 - **God:** How does this passage help me hope in heaven?

ACCOUNTABILITY

Relationships developed and deepened during accountability provide regular encouragement, and when necessary admonition, to spur each other on to delight in the supremacy of Jesus Christ. Ask one another heart-probing, clarifying questions, and help each other apply the gospel to your lives.

QUESTION: How are you “sabbathing” in Christ?