

## Sermon on the Mount – Jesus’ blueprint for life

**Context** – Jesus proclaiming good news of the kingdom and healing (Matt 4:23-25)

**Beatitudes** (Blessings) – who is being blessed by God through Jesus’ ministry – poor in spirit, persecuted, outcasts etc (Matt 5:1-12)

**Salt and light** – Jesus’ followers called to spread light and act as salt in their local community (Matt 5:13-16)

**Jesus fulfils Law and Prophets** – through his teaching and healing. Followers called to do the same (Matt 5:17-20)

**Jesus reinterprets the Law** – what matters is heart attitude rather than transgressing a limit. Law doesn’t deal with anger, lust, revenge, hatred, etc. Call instead is to justice, mercy, reconciliation, generosity, love (Matt 5:21-48)

**Don’t worry about reputation** when it comes to religious behaviours and do not seek higher status because of them (Matt 6:1-18)

**Don’t worry about money** – God knows your basic needs and will supply them. Seek the priorities of God’s kingdom instead (Matt 6:19-34)

**Treat others as you wish to be treated** – not blaming or judging others and not demanding responses (Matt 7:1-12)

**Call to discipleship** – listen to Jesus’ teaching and do what he says – this is the narrow, more difficult but more secure way to live (Matt 7:13-27)

**The response of the people** – astonishment! Jesus teaches with an authority and authenticity not seen before (Matt 7:28-29)

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