

*“Beauty will save the world.” -Fyodor Dostoyevsky*

All of us want to experience something beautiful.

*Matthew 5:3-9*

*3 ‘Blessed are the poor in spirit,*

*For theirs is the kingdom of heaven.*

*4 Blessed are those who mourn,*

*For they shall be comforted.*

*5 Blessed are the meek,*

*For they shall inherit the earth.*

*6 Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,*

*For they shall be filled.*

*7 Blessed are the merciful,*

*For they shall obtain mercy.*

*8 Blessed are the pure in heart,*

*For they shall see God.*

*9 Blessed are the peacemakers,*

*For they shall be called sons of God.*

*10 Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness sake,*

*For theirs is the kingdom of heaven.*

*11 ‘Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for My sake.*

*12 Rejoice and be exceedingly glad,*

*for great is your reward in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.*

*Jesus is interested in a beautiful life that defines who His followers ARE, not just what they Do.” -Daniel Fusco*

A “blessed” person is who you are already in Christ.

*Makarios (Gk): “somebody who has been blessed by God and is happy”.*

Does God want me to be happy?

POINT 1: YES, GOD ACTUALLY WANTS YOU TO BE HAPPY!

BUT-Jesus links the idea of happiness with blessing.

*“...we do not mean that our happiness is the highest good. We mean that pursuing the highest good will always result in our greatest happiness in the end.” -John Piper*

True happiness comes from being blessed by God not based on our circumstances.

Psalm 144:15

*HAPPY are the people who are in such a state;  
HAPPY are the people whose God is the Lord!*

Why are my pursuits not leading me to happiness? Because:

POINT 2: HAPPINESS IS NOT FOUND WHERE WE NORMALLY LOOK FOR IT

Jeremiah 2:13

*For My people have committed two evils:  
They have forsaken Me, the fountain of living waters,  
And hewn themselves cisterns—broken cisterns that can hold no water.*

By creating our own ideas about happiness, not only are we trading the **best** water supplies for the worst, but our cisterns are broken, with all the water leaking out and nothing but sewage remaining. Only Jesus provides living water.

As we see in the beatitudes:

POINT 3: JESUS DEFINES HAPPINESS AS BEING “BLESSED”

As Christ-followers, you and I are blessed by Jesus right here, right now.

Jesus gives us the gift of happiness in the most unexpected (crazy) ways and places... “CRAZY HAPPY”

BEatitudes not DOatitudes!

When a person is Crazy happy, something amazing happens...

#### POINT 4: THE BLESSED PERSON BEARS FRUIT

John 15:8

*By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples.*

Galatians 5:22-23

*22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, self-control...*

The main characteristic of a disciple, or follower of Jesus is that they bear fruit.

CHALLENGE: Follow Jesus into this Crazy Happy Life and see just how different your life and experiences can be!