

“What We Experience” – Matthew 5:10-12

January 17, 2021

What is this?

This study guide is meant to help you engage with the sermon passage and content in a deeper way. Specifically, this guide will help you to consider what the Bible and sermon impact you personally, the Redeemer Church community, and your life as an agent of Gospel change in your home, workplace, community and city.

Who is this Study Guide for?

While this is designed for our Redeemer family, it can be used by just about anyone wanting to reflect on the Bible and the teaching at RBC. It can be used for individual or group study.

Sermon Summary

Jesus tells us that persecution is as natural for the Christian as is their practice of mercy and peacemaking. That is hard to hear. We learn in this last beatitude that we will be pursued, hunted, mocked and slandered for our faith, and that the world hates Christians because they hate God and anyone/thing that looks like Him. But, we are to “rejoice and be glad” in persecution because we have a “great reward” that awaits us, and we endure because we know that we are persecuted because we are like Jesus – even if just a little.

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You

Review Matthew 5:10-12. How does this speak to your life?

- Have you ever experienced persecution *directly because of your faith*? How did it make you feel? How did you respond?
- Why do you find it hard to “rejoice and be glad” when you are feeling persecuted?

Church

What implications does Matthew 5:10-12 have for us as a church community?

- In what way might the church live out its mandate in the world that could result in it being persecuted (i.e., chased, hunted, mocked, slandered, etc.)?
- In what ways has Redeemer faced persecution in the past as a direct result of its witness?
- How can Redeemer model the character and conduct of Christ in our community, and how might we respond to persecution in a way that honours God?

City

How does this passage speak to our city?

- Make a list! In what ways does the Niagara Region need the People of God to rise up and be the people that the Beatitudes describe?