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**Date:** November 7, 2021 **Series:** Jesus' Most Famous Sermon

**Message:** Life in the Kingdom of God **Scripture:** Matthew 4:17-5:5

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*From that time on Jesus began to preach, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near."— Matthew 4:17*

1. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the Kingdom

2. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the Kingdom

### Questions for Reflection and Discussion

Matthew 4:17-5:5

1. How is the Sermon on the Mount different from a simple code of ethics?
2. Do you agree with John Stott's statement that "The Sermon on the Mount is probably the best-known part of the teaching of Jesus, though arguably it is the least understood, and certainly it is the least obeyed"? Why or why not? Why might this be an important reminder to keep in mind when studying the Sermon?
3. How does the concept of the kingdom of God tie into the Sermon on the Mount as a whole?
4. How does the kingdom of God specifically differ from the kingdom of this world?
5. Why might Jesus have included repentance (4:17) in his announcement about the kingdom of God? Why is repentance necessary?
6. The "poor in spirit" (5:3) are those who recognize that, apart from God's mercy, we are spiritual beggars and unable to stand before God based on our own merits. How should that affect the way we live each day? How can we cultivate this identity more?
7. Citizens of God's kingdom naturally grieve over their own sin and the effects of sin in the world (5:4). How should that affect the way we live each day? How can we cultivate this identity more?
8. Jesus pronounced a blessing on "the meek" (5:5). How does meekness contrast with our natural inclinations to defend ourselves, to win every argument, or to retaliate when we are wronged?