



Discussion Guide for “#Blessed + Grace”

Church Words With Friends Week 4

What does it mean to be #blessed? We have a sense that it's not material prosperity, but it's hard to put our finger on exactly what it is. Jesus shows us that blessing is about experiencing God's presence, a presence available to us regardless of what we do. God shows us grace - being with us whether we deserve God's presence or not!

Scriptures for Further Reading

[Numbers 6:22-26](#)

[Deuteronomy 28:1-6](#)

[Matthew 5:1-11](#)

[Mark 3:1-5](#)

[Galatians 5:22-23](#)

Passage for Sacred Reading:

Sacred Reading is a way of reading Scripture with an eye toward transformation, not just information. You can find a [step-by-step guide here](#). The passage for this week's sacred reading is [Matthew 5:1-11](#).

Questions for Discussion

1. How often do you encounter the idea of blessing in your week? (Yes, including #blessed) What does it mean where you encounter it?
2. Why do you think we so readily associate blessing with material prosperity? What's the danger in this thinking?
3. Compare Moses' commands in Deuteronomy 28:1-6 with Jesus' Beatitudes in Matthew 5:1-11. Why do you think Jesus redefines blessing as he does here?
4. Revisit the story of the man with the withered hand in Mark 3. How does this story illustrate both blessing and grace?
5. Why is grace so scandalous?
6. How can you choose to receive grace this week?