

THE FORGOTTEN JESUS PODCAST

DISCUSSION GUIDE

Season 7, Episode 2

How Is Isaiah Connected to the Beatitudes?

Matthew 5:1-10, Isaiah 61:1-9

Discussion Questions:

1. Why do you think Jesus sat down to teach, and why is that significant in Jewish tradition?
2. What parallels do you see between Jesus going up the mountain in Matthew 5 and Moses ascending Mt. Sinai in Exodus?
3. In what ways does Isaiah 61 anticipate the message of the Beatitudes?
4. Why do you think Jesus stopped reading Isaiah 61 at “to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor” in Luke 4?
5. How is the blessing structure of the Beatitudes different from the blessing structure of the Old Testament Law?
6. How do Jesus' spiritual blessings contrast with the physical blessings of Moses' covenant?
7. What does it mean to be "poor in spirit," and how does Isaiah 61 shed light on this?
8. How does Jesus' response to John the Baptist's disciples in Matthew 11 affirm His identity as the Messiah?

9. What role does justice and restoration play in both Isaiah 61 and the Beatitudes?
 10. How might the audience of Jesus, especially the disciples, have understood the connection between Isaiah's prophecy and Jesus' message?
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Application Questions:

1. In what areas of your life do you need to receive the “good news to the poor” today?
 2. What grief are you mourning right now—and how can you open that mourning up to God's comfort?
 3. What would it look like for you to practice humility in your home, workplace, or community this week?
 4. Where in your life are you hungering and thirsting for righteousness? What does that hunger lead you to do?
 5. Who needs mercy from you this week? How can you show them compassion?
 6. How can you pursue purity of heart in a current culture focused seemingly so much on self and detoured by mindless distractions?
 7. What steps can you take to become a peacemaker in your relationships or church?
 8. Are you experiencing persecution—social, emotional, or spiritual—for living out your faith? How can this passage encourage you?
 9. How has your view of “blessing” changed in light of the Isaiah-Matthew connection?
 10. How can you live this week as a Kingdom citizen bringing renewal to “ruined places” around you?
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Prayer Prompt

“Father, thank You for the richness of Your Word and how You have spoken the same Kingdom truth through both the prophets and through Your Son, Jesus. Help us to live as blessed citizens of Your Kingdom—not by worldly standards, but by the values of Isaiah 61 and the Beatitudes.

Transform our mourning into joy, our brokenness into healing, and our lives into a testimony of Your grace and justice. Amen.”

Additional Resources for Deeper Study

♦ **Scripture Passages:**

- **Matthew 5:3-10** – The Beatitudes
- **Isaiah 61:1-9** – Messianic prophecy
- **Luke 4:16-21** – Jesus reads Isaiah in the synagogue
- **Matthew 11:2-6** – Jesus responds to John the Baptist

♦ **Recommended Books and Tools:**

- *The Forgotten Jesus* by Robby Gallaty
- *The CSB Harmony of the Gospels* (Section 54 – Sermon on the Mount)
- *Sitting at the Feet of Rabbi Jesus* by Lois Tverberg
- *Chronicles of the Messiah* (FFOZ Commentary on the Gospels)
- [BEMA Discipleship Podcast](#) – Episodes 51 and 55 on Isaiah, Episodes 93-97 on the Sermon on the Mount, Episode 105 on John the Baptist

♦ **Videos and Media**

- [Long Hollow Church YouTube Channel](#)
 - *Replicate: Making Disciples Podcast* – episodes on Kingdom life and Jesus’ teaching
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