



WEEK 18: BLESSED DISCUSSION GUIDE

1. How would you define happiness and how is it different from being blessed?
2. Family, health, wealth, and security lead to happiness in Greek culture. Define what happiness in each of these areas looks like in American culture.
3. What have you observed that people do to chase after happiness but find it seldom brings happiness?
4. How have you seen this statement played out: "Happiness is in significance, not success"?
5. Which of the beatitudes seem most counter-cultural to you?
6. Which is most counter-intuitive? Why?
7. Read Matthew 5:3-12. How is a person in each of these beatitudes blessed?
8. How do you feel blessed in your personal life?
9. How can we be persecuted and still be happy? How can we be blessed through persecution?
10. Is there a specific step you need to take to align more closely with Jesus' teachings in the beatitudes?

ACTION STEPS

1. Go to www.icommittoprayer.com, the website of the Voice of the Martyrs. Read one story of a Christian suffering persecution. Pray for that person for three consecutive days.
2. As a group, discuss what we can do to stay more in touch with the persecuted church.