

WEEK 2 THE GOOD LIFE DANNY ANDERSON

To me this grace was given, to preach the unsearchable riches of Christ Ephesians 3:8
People are looking for the good life "What this world honors is detestable in the sight of God." Luke 16:15
"The Lord does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart ." 1 Samuel 16:7
Those who are well off are those who are <u>living</u> in the Kingdom of God. "Blessed are the poor in spirit , for theirs is the kingdom of heaven." <i>Matthew 5:3</i>
"Blessed are those who mourn , for they shall be comforted." <i>Matthew 5:4</i>
"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven." <i>Matthew 5:10</i>
"Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account." Matthew 5:11
No human <u>condition</u> excludes blessedness. And Jesus went throughout all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction. <i>Matthew 9:35</i>
The blessings are not the real <u>treasure</u> . "The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field." <i>Matthew</i> 13:44
"Let anyone who is thirsty come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as Scripture has said, rivers of living water will flow from within them." By this he meant the Spirit , whom those who believed in him were later to receive. <i>John 7:37-39</i>

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WEEKLY BIBLE READING

ONE YEAR NEW TESTAMENT	SUNDAY Galatians 4:1-20	MONDAY Galatians 4:21-5:12	TUESDAY Galatians 5:13-26	
this week	september 18	september 19	september 20	
WEDNESDAY Galatians 6:1-18	THURSDAY Ephesians 6:1-18	FRIDAY Ephesians 2:1-22	SATURDAY Ephesians 3:1-21	
september 21	september 22	september 23	september 24	
WEEKLY MEMORY VERSE Matthew 13:44				

UNSEARCHABLE



For Group Discussion

Answer these questions prior to your Small Group meeting this week.

Introduction

People desire the "good life," and most people think it consists of wealth, beauty, freedom, and fame. However, the life Jesus desires for us doesn't necessarily include any of those attributes. Everyone can experience the good life Jesus desires for us through him and him alone. Although you may be prevented from buying certain things, going certain places, or spending time with certain people, you will never be denied access to Jesus and the good life he has prepared for you.

Discussion Questions

- 1. Describe the type of life most people are referring to when they use the term "good life." Who does our society say will never attain the "good life?"
- 2. Read Matthew 8:1-4 & Luke 17:11-14. Lepers were considered to be "unblessable" in early century Jewish culture, but throughout the gospels, we see Jesus healing these people from disease and affliction. What was the purpose and meaning of his healing miracles?

Read Matthew 5:3-12. No matter where you are in life, you are never beyond being "blessed." Have you ever felt that you were beyond the reach of God's tender touch at some point in your life? Why?

- 3. What does the "good life" Jesus desires for us look like? Read Matthew 13:44-46. What is Jesus teaching about the kingdom of God in this passage? Who would Jesus say is living the "good life" in this world? What does "selling everything" look like for you?
- 4. Read Matthew 6:33. Jesus desires for us to experience more and more of the kingdom life, and nobody lived life in the kingdom better than Jesus. How

Small Group Questions Continued

do we become the type of person who will align our thoughts and actions to that of Jesus? Discuss some different ways Jesus sought after the kingdom of God. How will you apply these ideas to your life this upcoming week?

Read 2 Corinthians 9:6-8. Emmanuel's vision is to provide more and more people the opportunity to attain the "good life" through the message of the gospel. Will you commit to pray about your gift toward building a multi-site campus in Franklin?

OUTREACH: GROUPS IN ACTION

OUR CHURCH

Are you interested in helping with the weekend services? Our Production Team is looking for volunteers in all areas. Contact Kyle Thompson at kylethompson@ eclife.org.

OUR COMMUNITY

Habitat for Humanity needs our help. A new build in Bargersville will begin September 14, and there are several days Emmanuel has been asked to help. If you are interested, email Kerry Jones at kjones@eclife.org.

OUR WORLD

Check eclife.org for the dates of upcoming trips working with our ministry partners in Haiti, Nicaragua, and Colombia. If you can't go on a trip, commit to pray for others, sponsor a member by helping financially, and/or write letters of encouragement for the members going. The next team is traveling to Nicaragua in October.

Action Step Fill in the blanks below for this upcoming	; week.
My action steps are	
I'm accountable for	, and their action steps are
My memory verse is	
This coming week, I'm praying for:	