Morning Lesson

THE WAY TO TRUE HAPPINESS Matt. 5:1-12

INTRO:

- 1. How does happiness come to us?
- 2. Jesus presents the path to happiness that will stay with us even in discouraging times.
- I. RECOGNIZE OUR INSUFFICIENT RESOURCES. Matt. 5:3
- II. REALIZE THAT OUR SINS BREAK GOD'S HEART.
 Matt. 5:4
- III. TOTALLY SUBMIT TO GOD. Matt. 5:5
- IV. EAGERLY DESIRE SPIRITUAL FOOD. Matt. 5:6
- V. REMEMBER TO BE MERCIFUL. Matt. 5:7
- VI. REMAIN PURE IN HEART. Matt. 5:8
 - A. This encourages us to have inward purity.
 - B. To see him in the simple things of life will make our journey more rewarding.
 - C. We can see his handiwork all around us and see his providence in our lives. Rom. 1:20; Rom. 8:28
- VII. RESOLVE TO BE A PEACEMAKER. Matt. 5:9
 - A. Peace comes from facing conflict and resolving it.
 - B. The child of God is to pursue things that make for peace. Rom. 14:19; Rom. 12:18
 - C. Paul encouraged the church in Ephesus to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. Eph. 4:3
 - D. Peace is an element of fruit of the Spirit. Gal. 5:22
 - E. There is no peace for the wicked, but a Christian can have the peace that passes understanding when we take our cares to God. Isa. 48:22; Phil. 4:6, 7
- VIII. REJOICE WHEN PERSECUTIONS COME. Matt. 5:10
 - A. The promise is made to the persecuted righteous.
 - B. Even if they kill us for our dedication to God and his word, then we are still blessed. Matt. 5:11, 12

CONC:

1. As we strive to develop and maintain these attitudes and actions in our daily lives, we will truly be blessed and find happiness by resting securely in the love of God.