

Persecuted for Christ

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Text: Matthew 5:10-12

Main Point

You are blessed when you are persecuted for being like Jesus Christ

Key Ideas

- * Persecution is to be expected when we are like Jesus Christ
- * God blesses the persecution that is for righteousness sake
- * Rejoice and be glad when persecuted for being like Christ

Fellowship Starters

Loving God – Application to stir our love for Christ

1. Read Matthew 5:1; 10-12
2. What is the “persecution for righteousness sake” that Jesus blesses?
3. How have you personally experienced persecution being a believer?

Growing Together – Application to stir our obedience to Christ

1. Read John 15:20-23: do you understand what Jesus is saying?
Do you expect to be persecuted for following Christ?
2. Jesus motivates us to rejoice when persecuted - how is that meaningful to you?
3. Read 1 Peter 1:14: how does the Holy Spirit help you to rejoice too?
4. Where might you be currently tempted to avoid persecution?

Sharing Christ – Application to stir our witness for Christ

1. Pray that our lives would stand out with Christ’s righteousness, in order that we would make a difference even if that results in persecution.