



Third Sunday of Epiphany

“Becoming More By Becoming Less”

Matthew 5:1-12

When God Is With Us We Find More By Becoming Less

Its the Season of Epiphany—Meaning and Purpose

Epiphany - “inspired realization”

You feel it in your bones, you know it changes everything.

Being a follower of Christ is more than just Christmas and Easter

It’s about following when it’s not so easy... and God-With-Us helps us do that.

Today we’re going to be exploring how God-With-Us Turns things upside down—so much so that we discover more in less.

“Less is More” - When does that make the most sense?

Post WWII austerity led to an innovation: Bauhaus, Lloyd Wright

But our current culture seems to be much different, doesn’t it?

Jesus taught that when we get that God is with us, we can live in God’s economy.

WWHEN GOD IS WITH US WE FIND MORE BY BECOMING LESS

Matthew 5:1-12 - The Sermon on The Mount

- The setting—a wilderness and a mountain, sound familiar?*
- “Happiness”—this word looms large in this text, but in an odd way*
- Makarios—“How happy are those who are...” Beautiful living*
- First four Beatitudes: Longing; Second four: Transformation*
- In God’s economy things get turned upside down for a reason*

Jesus teaches us that because of God-With-Us we can see the world differently, and learn that happiness comes when we find more in less.

What if we wrote a Beatitudes for our current culture?

- Is there anything in here that speaks to beautiful living?*

Let’s break down the Beatitudes...

What might seem ugly in the eyes of our culture is beautiful in God’s economy

WHEN GOD IS WITH US WE FIND MORE BY BECOMING LESS



SERMON EXTRAS & FURTHER READING

FOR FURTHER READING:

The Word Made Flesh: A Theology of the Incarnation

Ian A. McFarland

Christ The Heart of Creation

Rowan Williams

The Universal Christ: Another Name for Everything

Richard Rohr

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