

2023 Aim Check-in

- Becoming disciples who make disciples, who make disciples.
 - Creating a community of faith that meaningfully engages our community of residence.
1. In the time since you last met as a H2H group, have you made any movement towards the aims we've set for 2023?
 2. How might we as a H2H group help support or encourage you towards these aims?

Discussion Questions Set #1

“But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.” (Matthew 6:33)

“Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?” Jesus replied: “‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.” (Matthew 22:36-40)

In sermon, it was suggested that the world around us understands that the blessed life, a happy life, only comes about through demanding that our individual needs and wants are met.

1. Discuss how you believe our culture envisions “the happy life” or “a #blessed life”.
2. Which aspects of this way of envisioning blessedness do you find attractive?
3. If you were to rate your personal view of blessedness in a percentage comparison with the worldly views just discussed, what percentage would you suggest? (ie. my view of blessedness is x% in alignment with the worldly view.)
4. In sermon it was suggested that our culture takes a “you miss 100% of the shots you don't take” stance on happiness or blessedness in life. The problem is that both targets and the adjustments to be made to be “on target” are very poorly defined. How might understanding the Great Commandment as a target and the Beatitudes as adjustments to be made help us in our pursuit of blessedness?

Discussion Questions Set #2

“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.” (Matthew 5:1 – 12)

- | | | |
|----------------------|---|---------------------|
| • The poor in spirit | • The merciful | • The pure in heart |
| • Those who mourn | • Those who hunger and thirst for righteousness | • The peacemakers |
| • The meek | | • The persecuted |

1. Of the eight Beatitudes, which do you find is easiest for you personally to embody? Which is most difficult?
2. Looking at the Beatitudes as descriptive of the church (in general), which is the best descriptor of us in 2023? Which is the poorest descriptor?
3. Of the eight Beatitudes, which embodiment do you think the world outside of the church is needing the most desperately?

Challenge: For those Beatitudes that your H2H group senses are less well embodied, spend some time praying that God's Spirit might enliven in the church the desire and ability to become just such people.