THOSE WHO ARE PERSECUTED

Matthew 5:10
Blessed are
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• "Blessed," means
"Those who are persecuted for righteousness sake" are
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For theirs is
For theirs is
• The kingdom of Heaven is
The kingdom of Heaven is

Review & Study: Those Who Are Persecuted

A. Put to memory **Matthew 6:26** (ESV) Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?

B. Answer the following questions about Matthew 5:10.

- 1. What does the term "blessed," mean? Who is making this declaration and what does this say for how real it is?
- 2. Who does Jesus declare to be blessed in this verse? What does the term translated, "persecuted," mean? What are these blessed people persecuted for? What does "righteousness," refer to?
- 3. Why are these people blessed, according to the end of the verse? What does this mean and how is it a blessedness?

C. Answer the following questions about John 3:19.

- 1. Who is the light that has come into the world? How did the people of the world respond to the light? Why does it say that this is?
- 2. Why do you think that people who do evil works would rather remain in darkness? How might this verse relate to anyone who shines light into the darkness of the world?

D. Answer the following questions about **John 15:18-19.**

- 1. What does Jesus say that we ought to know if the world hates us? What do we need to be for the world to love us?
- 2. According to Jesus, why are we not of this world? Since this is true, what will the world do? What does the world typically do with those it hates?

E. Answer the following questions about Philippians 2:9-11.

- 1. What did Jesus do to have such honor and power?
- 2. What name is greater than Jesus'? What knees will bow?
- 3. What does this say about the "Kingdom of Heaven" that the poor in spirit have?

F. Application

- 1. Based on the persecution you endure, how much are you hated by the world? Why is this?
- 2. How can you live out your new reality in Jesus in new ways?