



## Who Gets Blessed?

**Matthew 5:1-12 | Session 18.5**

### Before the Session

Facilitator: In advance of the session

- Have the Bible Background Video ready to view.
- Review today's scripture text and the session activities to help better facilitate the discussion.
- Listen to the FaithElement podcast for this session.

### Context

Watch this clip from [Kung Fu Panda \(2:58 5:00\)](#), then ask the following questions:

- What kind of characteristics do you imagine the people were looking for in a Dragon Warrior? How did they react when Po was chosen?
- How did the reaction from the bystanders differ from Master Oogway's (the elder tortoise) response?
- Why do you think it was surprising to Po that he was selected as the Dragon Warrior? What does this say about his image of himself?
- What kind of responsibilities, for both the onlookers and for Po, come with this selection?
- How is Po's selection subversive? What kind of impact do you imagine this sudden shift could have on the community?

## Content

Read together [Matthew 5:1-12](#), then watch the Bible Background Video and ask:

- What surprises you in this reading of the text? Did you notice anything new as you read the Beatitudes?
- Why do you think Jesus went up the mountain to deliver this message?
- How is this passage subversive? How does it change one's view of blessing?
- What relationship does God have to the poor, meek, hungry, persecuted, etc.? How should this impact our understanding of these people?
- If you were to rewrite the Beatitudes in today's context, who might be included?

## Closure

Watch this [trailer for the movie Minari](#) and ask the following questions:

- What do you notice about this family and their new lives as immigrants to America? What makes them stand out?
- What challenges do they face as individuals and as a family? How are the challenges different among the various generations?
- How do others in their community engage with the family? How do people's actions change throughout the trailer?
- How do you see the Beatitudes from Matthew reflected in the lives of people in this movie? Where might you identify the poor, meek, and hungry in the film?
- In what ways does the story of this family reshape your understanding of blessing? What are some ways you can bless others this week?

Close with a prayer.

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