

Title: We Find Happiness in Jesus

Scripture: Matthew 5:1-12

Have you ever watched a bee buzzing around in a flower garden? As you watch that bee, you will see that he isn't worried about a thing in the world. He is too busy enjoying all of the beautiful flowers that God has provided for him. He is as busy and as happy as a bee can be.

If I were to ask you what makes you happy, what would your answer be? Would it be something like "happiness is watching my favorite movie or show" or "happiness is being liked by all my friends?"

We all want to be happy. Does it surprise you to know that God wants you to be happy? Well, God does, but you might be surprised to find out that what Jesus said about happiness is quite different from what you and I might expect. Most of us think that to be happy means having a lot of money, plenty to eat, having someone to take care of us, or being well liked by everyone. That isn't what Jesus said.

One day Jesus went up onto the side of a mountain. He sat down, gathered His disciples around Him, and began to teach them about happiness. Even though these are not the exact words Jesus used, I think they will help us to understand what He taught.

Be happy when you are poor in spirit, because then you will find that your riches are in the kingdom of heaven.

Be happy when you feel you have lost what is most dear to you, because it is then that you will feel the love of Jesus who is the most dear to you.

Be happy with what you have, because then you will find that your heavenly Father provides everything that you need.

Be happy when you are caring for others, because it is in caring for others that you will find that you have a heavenly Father who cares for you.

These are just some of the things Jesus wanted people to understand. Wouldn't it have been great to be with all the people as they listened to Jesus? That would be better than me trying to explain what Jesus said. Today we have a special treat we can listen to Pastor Dennis tell us and act out what Jesus said. Jesus gathered people around Him to teach them. We will gather around Pastor Dennis as he helps us understand what it was like to be with Jesus and have Jesus teach us.

Can you be quiet this morning and listen? Can you imagine that it is Jesus talking to you and teaching you wonderful things? If you can do this you will be just as happy as a bee in God's creation of beautiful flowers.

Lets pray for God to speak to us this morning through Pastor Dennis. Pray