

DISCUSSION: [Matthew 5:3-12](#)

(Discuss the question cluster below - as much or as little as works for your group)

Feel free to break off into smaller groups if it helps you share more personally

We're continuing a sermon series called, "The Life of the Church." In it we'll focus on what it means to be the church through Henri Nouwen's picture of the Christian life as being like the Lord's Supper or 'Communion': *Chosen, Broken, Blessed, Given*. We'll spend two weeks on each concept of that picture to help us know what it means to be the church and what the church is called to do in our world.

- I. This week, we continued looking at the concept of blessing for the life of the church. Our passage helped us start to understand the surprising when and who of God's blessing for his people. The points were: 1) The surprising when of God's blessing; 2) The surprising who; and 3) the present/future nature of it. Through that we heard that the time for God's blessing is, "even now," the who is those who feel unseen, unheard, unsafe, unappreciated, maybe unable to go on. And the present/future nature of God's blessing is that our future with him shapes our life right now so that we can be blessed, as Jesus says these groups are, even now. Let's discuss how these things impact our lives.
 - A. What connected with you from the sermon or from the passage?
 - B. The sermon talked about how the future we believe we'll have shapes our life right now (giving us hope or despair in the present). Was there a time you hoped for something that you didn't get (or that you did)?
 1. *How did the hope (or fear) that you'd have (or not have) that future impact the way you felt about life leading up to it?*
 2. *How might the way you live this week change if you lived like you really knew the future Jesus promises to us was yours? What would you feel more free to do (or not do)?*
 - C. Where is it hard to hope in a promised blessing from God that you can't see yet?
 1. *How might you need God's help to 'listen to the future we can't see yet' — to not just deal with life by what we see, but to respond to our world by what we hear God promise?*
 2. *What is one area of your life where God might be calling you to listen to his voice more and promises more?*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Upcoming Events:
 - Women's Brunch :: Saturday, June 3rd, 10:30a :: Fellowship Hall
See details at ctkcambridge.org/women
 - EMOSEWA :: Sunday, June 4th, 12:30p :: Fellowship Hall
Come for food, fun, and Ask-Pastor-Travis! lara@ctkcambridge.org
 - Men's Breakfast :: Saturday, June 10th, 8:30a :: Fellowship Hall
See details at ctkcambridge.org/men
 - Discovering CTK :: Saturday, June 10th, 10:30a :: Fellowship Hall
Newcomers class. Lunch provided. Register at ctkcambridge.org/discovering-ctk