

## The Beatitudes

The Beatitudes do not come naturally to us. We need to acknowledge and mourn our own spiritual poverty, meekly accept Christ's mercy and righteousness and in turn show mercy to others with hearts given completely to God.

### 7. Blessed are the peacemakers

- God's peace, peace with God, wholeness, is given to us by God, through Christ's sacrifice
- We should share this peace with each other in church sincerely, understanding how much it cost
- God's peace should be something people see in our lives
- We become 'peacemakers' as we tell others about Jesus and show how they too can have peace with God

### 8. Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness sake

- The Kingdom of Heaven is worth more than everything else we have in this world
- It is worth enduring anything for
- God can use us to support those at present suffering extreme persecution for their faith
- Persecution for our faith is almost 'proof' that we are indeed following Christ and doing His works
- God can use persecution to make His kingdom grow

