

For the week of October 20, 2019

Preacher: Scott Grant

# Holy Stage

Seventh week in the series: *Blessed Are*

**Matthew 5:31-32**

It's no secret that we live in an individualistic culture in which the needs of the self take priority over other needs. What's it like to be married in such a culture, and how can we grow in our marriages in such a culture? In Matthew 5 and Matthew 19, Jesus comes to our aid.

## Discussion Questions:

1. If you are single and you'd like to be married, what are you looking for in a spouse, and how do you think what you're looking for resonates, or doesn't resonate, with what you know of the Scriptures?
2. If you're single, how have you, and how do you think you can, draw near to the Lord?
3. In the new covenant, God has given our marriages a great gift, the Holy Spirit, who nurtures our relationship with God, softens our hearts, and empowers us to love our spouses. If you're married and a believer in Christ, how have you seen the Spirit do these things? How do you think you could cooperate more with the Spirit, who wants to do these things?
4. How do you respond to these words from Tim and Kathy Keller? "Only you have complete access to your own selfishness, and only you have complete responsibility for it. If two spouses each say, 'I'm going to treat my self-centeredness as the main problem in the marriage,' you have the prospect of a truly great marriage."
5. Whether you're in a good marriage or a difficult marriage, a question you should ask yourself is, "How do I love my spouse?" How do you answer that question?