



RAISING

THE BAR

THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT



The Beatitudes
(Matthew 5:1-12)

The path to Christ's blessing (true happiness, divine favor) begins with humility.

**1. To be truly blessed
we must be truly humble before God.**

*Blessed are the poor in spirit,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.*

Those who recognize their own spiritual bankruptcy can find eternal satisfaction by faith in Jesus Christ (5:3).

**1. To be truly blessed
we must be truly humble before God.**

*Blessed are those who mourn,
for they will be comforted.*

Those who genuinely grieve their sinful condition and repent before God find comfort in His grace (5:4).

**1. To be truly blessed
we must be truly humble before God.**

*Blessed are the meek,
for they will inherit the earth.*

Those who exhibit self-control in dealing with a fallen world find God's reward in this life and the next (5:5).

**1. To be truly blessed
we must be truly humble before God.**

*Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,
for they will be filled.*

Those who seek after God's righteous ways will find their hearts enriched by His blessings (5:6).

**2. To be truly blessed
we must be truly transformed by God.**

*Blessed are the merciful,
for they will be shown mercy.*

Those who are tender and compassionate with others will find God's mercy in their own time of need (5:7).

**2. To be truly blessed
we must be truly transformed by God.**

*Blessed are the pure in heart,
for they will see God.*

Those who have experienced God's forgiveness and are living out His holiness will enjoy God's presence (5:8).

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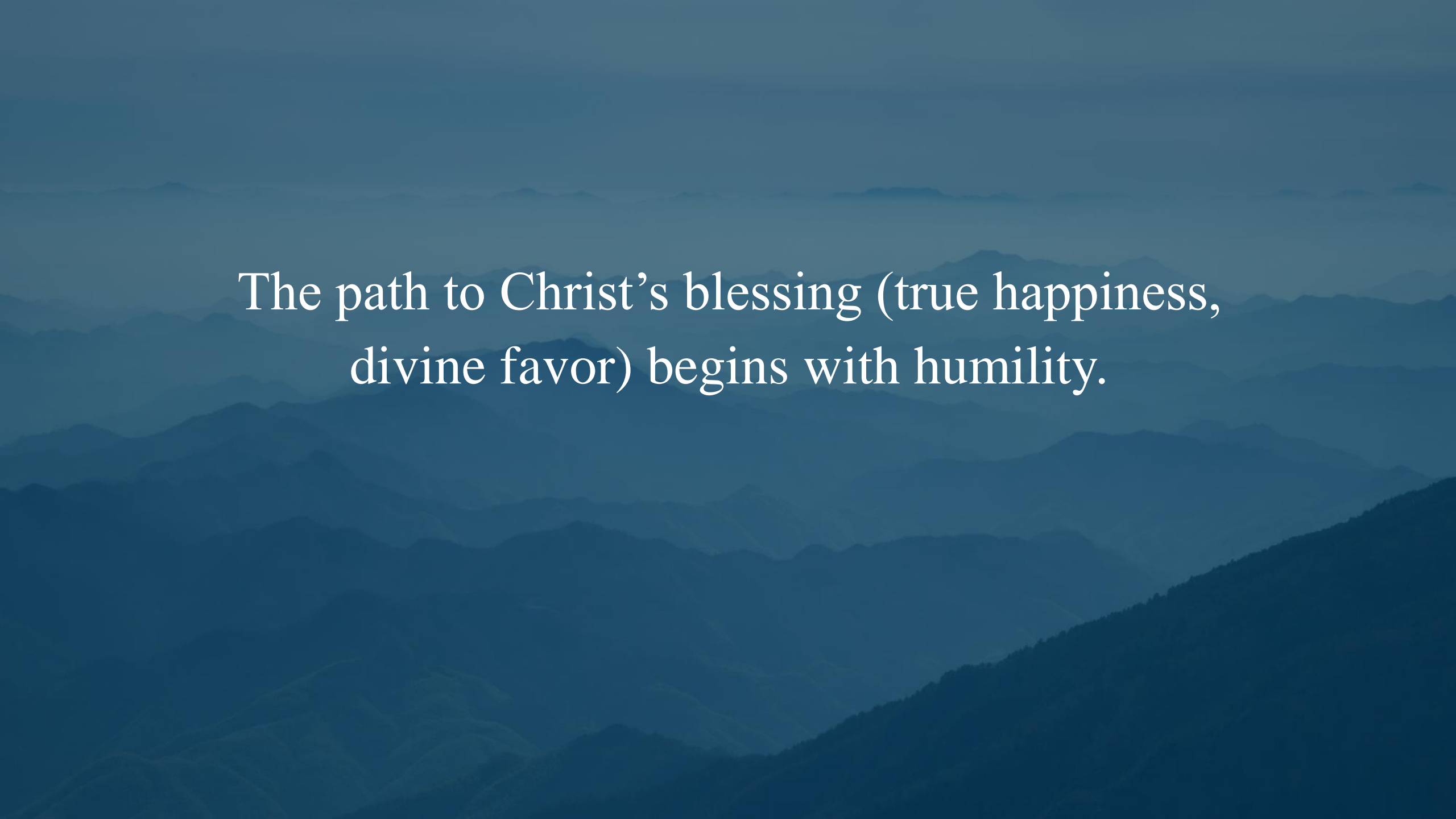
*Blessed are the peacemakers,
for they will be called children of God.*

Those who work toward establishing peaceful relationships
in life will gain a reputation as God's children (5:9).

**2. To be truly blessed
we must be truly transformed by God.**

*Blessed are those who are persecuted because of
righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.*

Those who undergo personal loss, discomfort, and deprivation for the sake of Christ will have eternal rewards in heaven (5:10-12).



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