



WEEK #6: Blessed Are the Pure

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

Matthew 5:8 (NIV)

FOLLOWING QUOTE IS SCREEN ONLY:

- If the usual interpretation of Jesus' Beatitudes as directions on how to attain blessedness is correct, you would have to be poor, have to mourn, be persecuted, and so forth, to be among the blessed. We would therefore expect anyone who seriously accepted this interpretation to seek to become poor, sad, persecuted, and so on, but very few people actually do this. (The Divine Conspiracy, by Dallas Willard.)

..."Why don't your disciples live according to the tradition of the elders instead of eating their food with defiled hands?"

Mark 7:5 (NIV).

..."Isaiah was right when he prophesied about you hypocrites; as it is written: 'These people honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me. They worship me in vain; their teachings are merely human rules.' You have let go of the commands of God and are holding on to human traditions."

Mark 7:6-8 (NIV)

FOLLOWING QUOTE IS SCREEN ONLY:

- Grace only sticks to our imperfections. Those who can't accept their imperfections can't accept grace either. (Scary Close, by Donald Miller.)

The Irony of Purity:

God doesn't need your _____; he wants your _____.

Jesus doesn't just want my _____; he wants my _____.

Jesus is not giving us a _____; he is offering an _____.

Discussion Questions:

1. What are your measuring sticks for a "Pure Life"?
2. Where in your life are you trying to earn God's love?
3. What specific type of weight would be lifted off of your shoulders if you let God be your true hope, not your own purity?

Recommended Resources:

- *The Divine Conspiracy (Chapter 4)*, by Dallas Willard
- *The Good Life*, by Dr. Derwin L. Gray
- *Scary Close*, by Donald Miller