

The Beatitudes as a model of prayer for the people of Whyalla

If you can, find yourself a place looking over Whyalla, a place like Hummock Hill or Mount Laura. If you can't, then these pictures might have to do.

Matthew 5:1-12

"Now when Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him, ² and he began to teach them.

He said:

³ Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

⁴ Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

⁵ Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

⁶ Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

⁷ Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.

⁸ Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.



⁹ Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

¹⁰ Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

¹¹ Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. ¹² Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."



Although Jesus was talking to his followers, this passage describes many people in our “crowd”; the people in Whyalla who are not “followers” of Jesus and so we can pray the blessings of knowing God into their lives as pathways to Him. The blessing is in the relationship not the reward, for the reward never comes without the relationship.

As we come together to pray for Whyalla

READ: Matthew 5:1-12

PRAY: Note those groups underlined in the Beatitudes above and ask God to bring people whom you know from that group to you so you can pray for them.

PRAISE: End this time of prayer with praise. Read out loud Psalm 100. The joy in this Psalm is a fitting response to finding God in the midst of life’s circumstances, whatever they might be.

Psalm 100

A psalm. For giving grateful praise.

¹ Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth.

² Worship the LORD with gladness; come before him with joyful songs.

³ Know that the LORD is God.

It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.

⁴ Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise;

give thanks to him and praise his name.

⁵ For the LORD is good and his love endures for ever; his faithfulness continues through all generations.



