

JOIN US FOR...

December
21
TODAY!!

COOKIES, COOKIES, COOKIES!

Head back to the lounge after service for a cookie celebration! All left over cookies will be given to people working on Christmas Eve!

December
24

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

Three services to choose from: 7, 9 & 11pm.
Childcare ages 0-5 will only be available at the 7pm.

CONNECT ON OUR WIFI

Network: Element Guest
Password: welcometoelement

THANK YOU FOR JOINING US TODAY!

Thank you for joining us today. This is a short note to let you know that we know what you are thinking: It is hot and cramped in this room. We want to acknowledge with you that yes, the front room is full, the kids rooms are full, and it can get warm. We are working on alleviating this right now by building our own building on the land just north of us (we must be out of this one by December 2016).

There is a lot that goes into the process of Element having a permanent home, but we hope that today you are first drawn to Jesus before you are overwhelmed by anything else. If it gets too hot we may hand out popsicles too help you cool off and give you a sugar rush. If you would like a service that has open seats (and is cooler), you are invited to our 8:15am service. Please understand that all of these "challenges" are because of our love for Jesus, people, and growth that has come quickly. These are good things. We hope you will stay as we work to make more room for you to be part of the good thing Jesus is doing here. If you would like more information about our building process or how you can participate you can visit www.elementroots.org. - The Element Team

Matthew 5:3-7:27

SERMON ON THE MOUNT

45. The Reprise

TODAY'S VERSES:

*Ephesians 2: 17-18
Mathew 5:2- 7:29
Ephesians 1: 3*

MY NOTES:

EPHESIANS 2:17-18

And he came and preached peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near. For through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father.

After approximately one year, Element is concluding the Sermon on the Mount, and what a journey it has been! Simply because the sermon series is ending, it does not provide an excuse not to take Jesus' words to heart. Remember, Jesus ends the sermon with a call to action.

The questions are going to start off a off a little differently since it is almost the New Year.

Share with your group what has happened in your life over this past year.

One of the reasons why the Sermon on the Mount is so beneficial is that you can break it up into 46 weeks or you can learn from it in its entirety. Over this past year we have had bite size pieces of Jesus' sermon broken down for us, this week, we received the entire sermon in one large chunk.

What did you think about hearing Jesus' sermon in full?

What part of the Sermon on the Mount resonates with you the most?

What part of the sermon challenges you?

Has your understanding of Jesus' love and grace for us deepened over this series? Why or why not?

The Sermon on the Mount is Jesus' longest straight narrative (sermon) recorded in the Bible, and his words are still relevant today. Jesus's words have power, authority, and truth to change us because Jesus is all-powerful, authoritative, and full of truth.

What do you think the Sermon on the Mount is about?

From the beginning to the end of the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus is emphasizing our identity in Him. Human beings are able to find our meaning, purpose, and fulfillment in Christ instead of our own accomplishments. Jesus starts at human brokenness and ends with a way to be healed if we take His words to heart. By starting the sermon with God's blessing, coming to fulfillment in understanding the Fatherhood of God, and ending with two roads, two trees and two houses, Jesus underscores that our identity is received and not achieved.

We live in obedience to Jesus because he has first loved, sought, and paid for our redemption. We should not center our lives on trying to achieve what we have already been given by an act of God's grace. Our entire world has "achievement" at its core of why everyone does what they do. Everyone is trying to achieve something, and yet Jesus resets all of that by laying out a proper understanding of what he has achieved for us; which leaves us in the position of only truly understanding salvation when we humbly receive it by faith.

How do you want to be blessed (what are the desires of your heart)?

How has Jesus blessed you?

Even if you are going through a season of trial and tribulation, we must rest in the fact that we have been blessed because of Christ. Jesus's sermon starts with the fact that despite our brokenness we are blessed, and then goes on to explain how this blessing changes the way we should to live. Christ's blessing changes the way we view anger, sex, relationships, prayer, temptation, struggles, and love; LITERALLY EVERYTHING. It is essential to understand how we are blessed because a proper understanding of blessing enables us to begin to live a life that, in turn, blesses others.

Are you currently blessing others?

If so how?

If not, how can you begin to do that?

We are reminded that those who are part of Abraham's family, which is all of us, are to be a blessing to the earth. Our salvation starts and ends with God's blessing, our relationship with others should begin to look the same.