



Kingdom Be-Attitude: *Blessed are the poor in spirit*

Matthew 5:1-12 (NKJV)

¹And seeing the multitudes, He went up on a mountain, and when He was seated His disciples came to Him. ²Then He opened His mouth and taught them, saying: ³"Blessed are the poor in spirit, For theirs is the kingdom of heaven. ⁴Blessed are those who mourn, For they shall be comforted. ⁵Blessed are the meek, For they shall inherit the earth. ⁶Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, For they shall be filled. ⁷Blessed are the merciful, For they shall obtain mercy. ⁸Blessed are the pure in heart, For they shall see God. ⁹Blessed are the peacemakers, For they shall be called sons of God. ¹⁰Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, For theirs is the kingdom of heaven. ¹¹"Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for My sake. ¹²Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

Introduction

The Sermon on the Mount comes after the commencement of our Lord Jesus' ministry in Galilee.

Matthew 4:23-25

²³And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all kinds of sickness and all kinds of disease among the people. ²⁴Then His fame went throughout all Syria; and they brought to Him all sick people who were afflicted with various diseases and torments, and those who were demon-possessed, epileptics, and paralytics; and He healed them. ²⁵Great multitudes followed Him—from Galilee, and from Decapolis, Jerusalem, Judea,

and beyond the Jordan.

These people who followed Jesus have experienced or have witnessed Jesus firsthand, and they are willing to even go out of town to hear what Jesus says.

Jesus speaks about the kingdom of heaven.

Matthew 4:17

From that time Jesus began to preach and to say, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

The Sermon on the Mount has a pattern of saying "Blessed," then adding a certain condition. After the condition is met, then a certain promise is stated. But if you look carefully, in verse 3, the statement is written in present tense while the other verses are written in future tenses. We can assume that it is God's way of allowing us to foretaste the Kingdom, yet He has also stored more of the Kingdom's blessings as we continue to follow Him.

What is being "poor in spirit"?

Jesus uses the expression "poor in spirit," in which the word "poor" speaks of a hopeless (wretched) poverty and is not the same on how the government classify people like poor-class or middle-class or rich-class. It is because many of the poor-class have houses and several things at home.

Jesus talks about the poverty of spirit. He's talking about spiritual bankruptcy. It means there is nothing left; you are broke. Man has nothing to offer God that will equal, earn, or merit God's righteousness.

Romans 3:9-18

⁹What then? Are we better than they?

Not at all. For we have previously charged both Jews and Greeks that they are all under sin. ¹⁰As it is written: "There is none righteous, no, not one; ¹¹There is none who understands; There is none who seeks after God. ¹²They have all turned aside; They have together become unprofitable; There is none who does good, no, not one." ¹³"Their throat is an open tomb; With their tongues they have practiced deceit"; ¹⁴"Whose mouth is full of cursing and bitterness." ¹⁵"Their feet are swift to shed blood; ¹⁶Destruction and misery are in their ways; ¹⁷And the way of peace they have not known." ¹⁸"There is no fear of God before their eyes."

Naaman's Leprosy Healed

In 2 Kings chapter 5, there is a man who is a Syrian. He is not an Israelite, so he is one, who in a sense, is outside the covenant of God and certainly of his knowledge of God. He worships other gods, and he is an enemy of Israel. In fact, he is the commander of the Syrian Army. Notice that he must be told about deliverance that comes from Israel by a little Israelite slave girl.

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Rev. Dr. James C. Sy
Administrative Pastor



THE UCA ADVANTAGE

UCA BRINGS QUALITY EDUCATION

Did you know that you can have flexibility and convenience all while still receiving quality education and achieving holistic development? Here in United Christian Academy (UCA), you can enjoy the best learning experience in the most flexible way.

As a school that cares for the future of its students, UCA aims to bring quality education right at your doorsteps in just a few clicks. Discover why UCA offers the most advantageous learning program for your children!

FLEXIBLE LEARNING MODALITY

In the Philippines, typhoons visit regularly especially from June to September, and it is never safe to go outside when a rainstorm is present. During such situations, UCA's **face-to-face classes can be shifted online**, which ensures the students' safety while still learning in the comfort of their homes.

Cancelled face-to-face classes due to bad weather? No worries! UCA Online got you covered.

ACCESSIBLE LEARNING

UCA Online is accessible in any device. Whether you use a computer, laptop, tablet, or smart phone, learning is possible in this school. It does not need difficult technical requirements for it to operate. As long as you have a smart phone and applications like Google Meet, there is nothing to be worried about.

Don't have a computer desktop or laptop? No worries! UCA Online got your back!

- ✓ **COST-EFFECTIVE**
- ✓ **CAN BE ACCESSED ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD**
- ✓ **OPEN 24/7**
- ✓ **CAN BE ACCESSED USING ANY DEVICE**
- ✓ **EASY TO NAVIGATE**

Romans 8:1 (NKJV)

There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit.

AVAILABLE ANYTIME, ANYWHERE

For the past years, UCA Online has been a blessing to many families living in different places in the Philippines, as well as in other countries like Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, etc.

The online mode of learning provides students an access to their video lessons and activities whenever and wherever they are. Classes are also held via Google Meet.



VALUE FOR MONEY EDUCATION

Studying online means having less cost on school expenditures since there is no need to spend on physical books, uniforms, transportation services, and even allowances. But even with lesser expenses, the quality of education remains top-notch for both face-to-face and online students. Studying online in UCA can help you save money.

Want to receive cost-effective and quality education at the same time? No worries! You can count on UCA Online!



EXCITING PROGRAMS AHEAD

Learning never stops in UCA. **The school goes beyond the classroom setting to hone the students' academic, social, and even spiritual development through its online platform.** Students can expect interesting and exciting programs that will help them discover their inner talents and abilities. It is also an opportunity for them to meet new friends and acquaintances.



GATEWAY OF EVANGELISM

For 28 years, the Lord uses this ministry that He has called and established to preach the Gospel and reach out to His lost sheep. Through hearing God's Word in online chapel services, online retreats, and memory verse drills, the seed of faith is planted to their hearts, and those whom He has called will respond to His calling in their lives.

Want to know the Lord and His Word? No worries! UCA Online is here to give you an opportunity!



WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR? ENROLL NOW AND JOIN THE FAMILY THAT TRULY CARES FOR YOUR FUTURE!



And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose.

Romans 8:28
(NKJV)



UCACOA TWSP GRADUATION



TAKING THE ROAD To professional success

As a school that provides an avenue to prepare citizens for real-world situations, UCA College of Asia (UCACOA) commemorates its 19th Commencement Exercises of Training for Work Scholarship Program (TWSP) under Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA).

Last Friday, April 4, the graduates of Bookkeeping Training NC III and Illustration NC II gathered in the UCA Auditorium to officially receive their certificates as they finished their course. Everyone gladly attended the ceremony as they are reminded of

the meaningful learnings all throughout their training. This kind of program is not the end, but the beginning of opportunities for the career paths they will choose. Several students were given a moment to express their gratitude and thanksgiving through an audio-visual presentation. Truly, this is a wonderful opportunity to hone one's abilities and skills which they may use in practical applications in their chosen career.

Praise God for using UCACOA as a gateway to bring future success in the lives of these people!

OPENING CEREMONY

TVET Focal Rev. Ryan Christian Tabay, on behalf of UCACOA President Rev. Dr. James Sy, gave a short but meaningful congratulatory message to the graduates who have successfully completed their trainings. He also expressed his gratitude for their time and effort during the training, hoping that they may use it effectively in their future endeavors.



2015 TATAK-TESDA Champion
Ms. Merryll Lhorvin Santos hosted
the commencement exercises.



Romans 8:29
(NKJV)

For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren.



GIVING OF CERTIFICATES

The graduates proudly went on stage to receive their Certificates of Training. This moment is a testament of their hardwork, dedication, and commitment spent to complete their studies.



PLEDGE OF LOYALTY

Led by 2015 TATAK TESDA Champion Ms. Merryll Lhorvin Santos, the graduates raised their hands to pledge their loyalty to UCACOA by upholding its principles and ideals.



PHOTOBOOTH

To remember for this milestone, the graduates together with their loved ones joyfully posed for photos while proudly showcasing the result of their hardwork.



Moreover whom He predestined, these He also called; whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified.

Romans 8:30
(NKJV)

THANKSGIVING MESSAGE

The graduates expressed their gratitude as they received a worthwhile learning experience.

"I just want to say a big thank you to everyone who made this TESDA Bookkeeping NC III training possible. To Cong. Gus Tambunting, thank you for your support in making this program accessible and free. To UCA College of Asia, thank you for being part of this journey. As a management accounting graduate, this training has helped me to connect what I learned in school to real world applications."



BEA ANGELIE C. ASCURA
(BOOKKEEPING NC III GRADUATE)

"I would like to express my deepest gratitude to United Christian Academy and Cong. Gus Tambunting for this wonderful and amazing experience. Maraming salamat sa UCA, sa aralin at kaalaman na itinuro at ibinahagi ninyo sa amin. Lubos po akong nagpapasalamat for giving us this scholarship and the incredible opportunity to learn."



JIGG D. DASAL
(BOOKKEEPING NC III GRADUATE)

"Thank you, UCA College of Asia, Cong. Gus Tambunting, and UCF Church, for granting us this scholarship opportunity."



SAMANTHA B. INIEGO
(BOOKKEEPING NC III GRADUATE)

"Thank You, Lord, for giving us strength and good health. I would also like to thank Cong. Gus Tambunting, UCA College of Asia, UCF, and TESDA for providing us this opportunity to study again without any expenses. I extend my heartfelt gratitude also to Ptr. Ryan for being an instrument of the Lord in giving us this opportunity."



ROSEMARIE E. MACALALAD
(BOOKKEEPING NC III GRADUATE)

"Thank you, UCA College of Asia, Cong. Gus Tambunting and to UCF Church, for giving us this kind of program. It is a great opportunity for us to nurture our skills even more. Thank you and God bless."



TRISHA MAE DIMARANAN
(ILLUSTRATION NC II GRADUATE)

"I would like to express my gratitude to Cong. Gus Tambunting, TESDA, and to my school, UCA College of Asia, for giving us the opportunity to have the competency of Bookkeeping NC III. I would also like to thank Ptr. Ryan Tabay for helping us and reminding us to comply with all the things we need for this course, and to my fellow classmates, family, and friends who have supported me all throughout."



LOVELY JOY L. MANABAT
(BOOKKEEPING NC III GRADUATE)

"I am very grateful for this opportunity. A big thank you to Cong. Gus Tambunting for sponsoring our TESDA training. This will be a valuable addition to my credentials as I begin my career in the industry. Thank you as well to UCA College of Asia and to all our professors for providing a great learning environment that refreshed my basic accounting knowledge from college. As a management accounting graduate, I truly appreciate how this training has further developed my skills."



AIRA FRANCINE T. MARIQUINA
(BOOKKEEPING NC III GRADUATE)

"Gusto ko lang magpasalamat unang-una kay Lord. Maraming salamat sa lahat ng blessings na natanggap ko at sa kalakasan. Sa UCACOA at kay Cong. Gus Tambunting, maraming salamat dahil isa ako sa naging part ng inyong scholarship program. Kay Ptr. Ryan, maraming salamat sa pag-guide sa amin. Thank you dahil marami akong natutunan sa Illustration NC II na maia-apply ko sa aking sarili."



LIVES LOUIS D. BURGOS
(ILLUSTRATION NC II GRADUATE)

"To UCA, TESDA, Cong. Gus Tambung, UCF Church, and my amazing parents, completing my Illustration NC II Training feels like a big step forward and I couldn't have done it without all of you. UCA, thank you for the hands-on learning, the creative space that made this short but intense program so rewarding. TESDA, your practical skill-focus approach gave me exactly what I need to grow as an illustrator in just a few weeks."



MANUEL M. CABANA
(ILLUSTRATION NC II GRADUATE)

"To UCA College of Asia, our generous sponsor Cong. Gus Tambunting and UCF Church, thank you so much for giving us this opportunity where we can enhance our skills when it comes to arts."



ELYNA KARENE E. DOLOTINA
(ILLUSTRATION NC II GRADUATE)

³⁵Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? ³⁶As it is written: "For Your sake we are killed all day long; We are accounted as sheep for the slaughter."

Romans 8:35-36
(NKJV)

KAGALAKAN SA PAGLILINGKOD



PAGGAWA NG POSTE



Ang mga posteng ito ang gagapangan ng mga itinanim na dragon fruit.

Bunga ng karanasan sa pag-ibig, pagpapatawad, at bagong buhay sa Panginoon ang malalim na naisin at kasabikan sa paglilingkod sa ministeryo ng Diyos. Kaya sa anomang panahon, patuloy ang Kaniyang mga anak sa pagpapagamit para sa Kaniyang kaluwalhatian.

Sa bawat linggo ay oras at lakas ang nilalaan ng mga manggagawa at miyembro ng UCF Mt. Tabor Church sa pagpapalago at pagpapaganda ng lupaing ipinagkatiwala sa ating panambahan. Tulong-tulong ang bawat isa sa pagtanim ng *dragon fruit* sa tabi ng *parking area*. Mula sa paghuhukay ng lupa, paggawa ng poste at pagtanim ng halaman ay buong pusong kagalakan ang naramdaman ng bawat isa. Mayroon mang pisikal na kapaguran, ngunit hindi ito alintana dahil mas matimbang sa kanilang mga puso ang magpagamit sa gawain ng Diyos.

Purihin ang Panginoon para sa kalakasan at pribilehiyo upang maging kabahagi sa Kaniyang mga gawain!



PAGTATANIM NG DRAGON FRUIT

Sinasabi sa Salita ng Diyos na kung ano ang ating itinanim, ito rin ang ating aanihin. Umabot man ng ilang taon ang pagtubo ng mga dragon fruit, ngunit magiging kapakinabangan pa rin ang mga ito sa darating na panahon.

GIVING OF CERTIFICATE

SALAMAT SA TAPAT NA-DIYOS

Noong ika-30 ng Marso ay malugod na tumanggap ng sertipiko ng bawtismo ang ating mga kapatid na sumailalim sa pagbawtismo sa tubig bilang kanilang hakbang sa pagsunod. Ang kanilang desisyon na tumugon sa tawag ng Diyos at sumailalim sa bawtismo sa tubig ay simulain pa lamang ng kanilang lakad sa Diyos.



Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us.

Romans 8:37
(NKJV)

Kingdom...

>> *from page 1*

Here is a man who is great, a commander of the army of the king of Syria — and now he is a leper. But God informs him through the little slave girl that there is a prophet in Israel who can give deliverance, who is able to bring the cure.

In the natural flow of things, Naaman goes to the king of Syria, the king of Syria writes a letter, and now he arrives in Samaria with the letter and presents it to the king of Israel. The essence is: "Here's my commander; you'd better heal him, or else." The king of Israel realizes he's in big trouble and says, "What am I supposed to do?" The fact is, he could do nothing but to tear his clothes, when Elisha the man of God hears that the king of Israel has torn his clothes, that he sends to the king, saying, "Why have you torn your clothes? Please let him come to me, and he shall know that there is a prophet in Israel."

Now, Naaman arrives at Elisha's door with his entourage. He expects that the prophet would greet him and says to himself, "He will surely come out to me, and stand and call on the name of the Lord his God, and wave his hand over the place, and heal the leprosy." But Elisha sent a messenger to him, saying, "Go and wash in the Jordan seven times, and your flesh shall be restored to you, and you shall be clean."

Obviously, Naaman is offended and thinks to himself "why he would dip in muddy water." This is below the

standard of cleanliness and healing. But his servant reasons with him saying, "If he'd instruct you great things, you would have done it. He is asking you to just dip seven times, what can you lose?"

So, Naaman takes off his clothes and his dignity, obeys the prophet, and comes out restored like a little child's skin. After that, he comes back to the house of Elisha. This time, Elisha comes out, and he says to Elisha, "Indeed, now I know that there is no God in all the earth, except in Israel; now therefore, please take a gift from your servant." But Elisha refuses to receive anything. So, Naaman says, "Then, if not, please let your servant be given two mule-loads of earth; for your servant will no longer offer either burnt offering or sacrifice to other gods, but to the Lord."

Naaman finally recognizes that he has nothing to give; he can only receive. That is spiritual poverty. God is gracious to bring him to it.

The Pharisee and the Tax Collector

Luke 18:9-14

⁹Also He spoke this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and despised others: ¹⁰"Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. ¹¹The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, 'God, I thank You that I am not like other men—extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this tax collector. ¹²I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I possess.' ¹³And the tax collector, standing afar off, would not so much as raise his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying,

'God, be merciful to me a sinner!' ¹⁴I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted."

Jesus gives True Rest

Matthew 11:25-30

²⁵At that time Jesus answered and said, "I thank You, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that You have hidden these things from the wise and prudent and have revealed them to babes. ²⁶Even so, Father, for so it seemed good in Your sight. ²⁷All things have been delivered to Me by My Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father. Nor does anyone know the Father except the Son, and the one to whom the Son

wills to reveal Him. ²⁸Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. ²⁹Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰For My yoke is easy and My burden is light."

Conclusion

Whenever we come to God in worship, we must always remember where all that we have come from, who God is, and who we are. Now, if God has shown you and brought you to the point of understanding that there is nothing in yourself good or can give anything to God, then you are now at the best place. Trust in Jesus Christ, and in Him alone, for salvation.

SERMON NOTES

Write the points to remember from the sermon as you seek God in your life.

SHARE HIS WORD



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SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE
3:00 PM (Cabuyao, Laguna)

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