

## ***"Time for Change"***

**Beatitude #5: *"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled."***

What do I really want?

How much do I really want it?

How willing am I to receive it?

**Road to Recovery Principle #5:**

*Voluntarily submit to every change God wants to make in my life and humbly ask Him to remove my character defects.*

**Where do my character defects come from?**

From my chromosomes: what I inherited

From my circumstances: how I was nurtured

From my choices: what I have done

**Why are they so hard for me to change?**

Because I've had them so long

Because I make them my identity

Because of their payoff

Because Satan discourages me

**The million-dollar question:**

Do I really want to change or not?

**The billion-dollar question:**

Am I willing to let God really change my life?

**How do I cooperate with God's change process?**

Focus on changing one defect at a time

Focus on victory one day at a time

Focus on God's power, not my power

Focus on the positive, not the negative

Focus on doing good, not feeling good

Focus on people who help me, not hurt me

Focus on progress, not perfection

***Am I ready for God to really work on me?***

## ***Matthew 5:1-16***

5:1 Now when he saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him, and he began to teach them, saying:

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 sons 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.

13 "You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its  
saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for  
anything, except to be thrown out and trampled by men.

14 "You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be  
hidden. 15 Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl.  
Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the  
house. 16 In the same way, let your light shine before men, that  
they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven.

## ***Romans 12:1-2***

12:1 Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to  
offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God-this  
is your spiritual act of worship. 2 Do not conform any longer to the  
pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your  
mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is-  
his good, pleasing and perfect will.

# THE ROAD TO RECOVERY

Eight Principles Based on the Beatitudes, By Pastor Rick Warren

1. **R**ealize I'm not God. I admit that I am powerless to control my tendency to do the wrong thing and that my Life is unmanageable.  
"Happy are those who know they are spiritually poor." (Matthew 5:3)
2. **E**arnestly believe that God exists, that I matter to Him, and that He has the power to help me recover.  
"Happy are those who mourn, for they will receive comfort." (Matthew 5:4)
3. **C**onsciously choose to commit all my life and will to Christ's care and control.  
"Happy are the meek." (Matthew 5:5)
4. **O**penly examine and confess my faults to myself, to God, and to someone I trust.  
"Happy are the pure in heart." (Matthew 5:8)
5. **V**oluntarily submit to every change God wants to make in my life and humbly ask Him to remove my character defects.  
"Happy are those whose greatest desire is to do what God requires."  
(Matthew 5:6)
6. **E**valuate all my relationships. Offer forgiveness to those who have hurt me and make amends for harm I've done to others, except when to do so would harm them or others.  
"Happy are the merciful." (Matthew 5:7)  
"Happy are the peacemakers." (Matthew 5:9)
7. **R**eserve a daily time with God for self-examination, Bible reading, and prayer, in order to know God and His will for my life, and to gain the power to follow His will.
8. **Y**ield myself to God to be used to bring this Good News to others, both by my example and by my words.  
"Happy are those who are persecuted because they do what God requires."  
(Matthew 5:10)



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*Matthew 5:6*

*"Time for Change"*

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