

The Beatitudes and social media

At the beginning of the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus commends eight beautiful qualities. But what do the Beatitudes mean for social media and life online?

- > **Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven**
I will remember that my identity comes from being made and loved by God, not from my online profile.
- > **Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted**
This world is full of grief and suffering. I will tread softly and post with gentleness and compassion.
- > **Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth**
I will not boast or brag online, nor will I pull others down.
- > **Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled**
There are many wrongs to be righted. I will not be afraid to name them and look for justice in the world.
- > **Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy**
I will not judge others but be generous online. I will be conscious of my own failings.
- > **Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God**
I will be truthful and honest, and I will not pretend to be what I am not.
- > **Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God**
I will seek to reconcile those of different views with imagination and good humour.
- > **Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven**
I will not add to the store of hate in the world, but I will try to be courageous in standing up for what is right and true.