

Following Christ in an Upside-Down World

Luke 6:17-31

When Jesus' first followers heard His sermon recorded in Luke 6, they must have felt that Jesus was turning their world _____—that what they had always believed was right side up was actually _____.

Jesus' sermon described what living in the kingdom is meant to look like. As King and Ruler, He alone can _____ the kingdom as it really is. The way we _____ and _____ our world is upside down compared to the way He sees it. In almost every case, what we see or think we know or should do, if not guided by God's _____ and by God's _____, is going to be wrong.

Jesus warns His followers that if we follow Him, we must let Him turn our world _____ to see it as it really is and respond to it as He _____ us to. Otherwise, the world's natural predator will overtake and _____ us every time.

Jesus turns us upside down to show how we should see _____ and _____ to our situation as heirs of the kingdom. He says, "Do you see yourself as hindered, or with a hunger that goes unsatisfied. Do people treat you badly? Don't think it's a bad thing and cry about it. _____! Your reward! It's _____!"

Then, Jesus turns our world right-side up to show us how we should see _____ and _____ to them since we are heirs of the kingdom. He says, "When people _____ and _____ you, you'll feel like hating them and hurting them _____. But things are upside down. Respond to evil with _____. The people who hate and mistreat you aren't so different from you. They need _____ grace and forgiveness that you have received from the Father and from me. Treat them the way _____ want to be treated, with patience and understanding and love and forgiveness—the way _____ treated you."

We have our instructions for flying right in an upside-down world. Seek the _____ of Christ who sees things right-side up by living by His _____ and listening to His _____ voice.