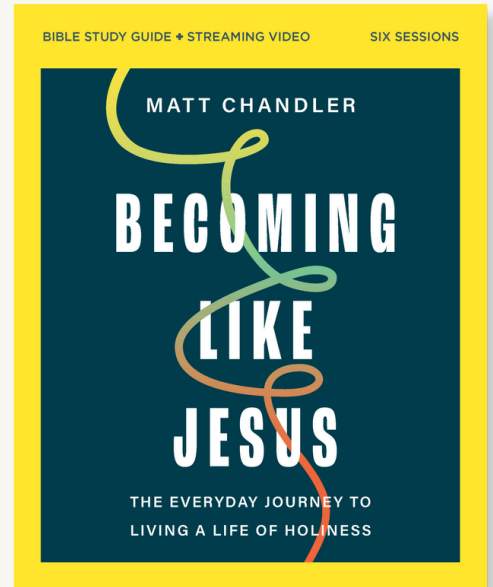


# IS BECOMING LIKE JESUS RIGHT FOR YOUR GROUP?

## Overview

Many of us imagine spiritual growth as a steady climb upward, but the truth is that it's a journey filled with highs, lows, and moments of relearning. Every struggle, setback, and victory is part of how Jesus shapes us into His image.

The Beatitudes listed in Matthew 5 provide a roadmap for this journey, revealing the qualities Jesus calls us to embody: poverty in spirit, godly sorrow, meekness, a hunger and thirst for righteousness, mercy, purity, peacemaking, and perseverance through trials.



## Study Structure

This six-week study covers each of the eight Beatitudes. These traits don't develop overnight—they require deep work, over time, with the support of a community for them to take root and bear fruit in your life. The course is designed to help any believer - whether brand new or seasoned - to grow and become more like Jesus.

### Typical Session Format (60-90 minutes)

- Connect (10-15 minutes)
- Watch the Session (20 Minutes)
- Group Discussion (35-50 minutes)
- Personal Response (10-15 minutes)
- Closing Reflection & Prayer (10-15 minutes)

## Sessions

1. **The Invitation (19 minutes)** Using the metaphor of a horizontal coil, Matt explains how every peak and valley in life propels us forward in our spiritual growth.
2. **Poverty and Grief (19 minutes)** The journey to becoming like Jesus begins not from a place of strength, but from the lowliness of being "poor in spirit."
3. **Quiet Strength and Holy Hunger (18 minutes)** The quiet strength of meekness is intertwined with a deep hunger and thirst for righteousness—a desperate desire to be in right relationship with God, ourselves, others, and creation.
4. **Mercy and Purity (17 minutes)** By embracing our need for mercy and refusing to hide our struggles, we close the distance with God and experience the profound transformation that leads to true intimacy and freedom in Christ.
5. **The Peacemakers (19 minutes)** All believers are called to be peacemakers, actively bringing the wholeness and harmony of God's shalom into a fractured world.
6. **Persecuted and Rejoicing (20 minutes)** To stand firm in persecution, we are encouraged to cultivate deep spiritual roots through prayer and Scripture, and to remain deeply embedded in a supportive church community.

## Key Features

- 1 Video-Driven Content:** Each week includes a video session from Matt, providing expert, biblical teaching. Free streaming access is included with the purchase of a study guide.
- 2 Discussion-Oriented:** Significant time is dedicated to group discussion, allowing participants the opportunity to do the “deep work” in community. The Leader’s Guide (found at the back of the Study Guide) provides tips for facilitating these conversations.
- 3 Personal Study:** Between group sessions, participants engage with three days of in-depth personal Bible study to implement what they learned into their life.
- 4 Six-Week Schedule:** The six-week format is easy to adapt for individual study, small groups, or church-wide discipleship programs.



**Watch Session 1 Now!**

[youtu.be/f2Wkhgb1\\_x4](https://youtu.be/f2Wkhgb1_x4)

## Recommendations & Resources

### Materials for Leaders

- *Becoming Like Jesus Study Guide* (with streaming video access), which includes the Leader’s Guide
- Bible
- A dedicated meeting space
- A device to stream the video sessions, like a smart TV, computer, or tablet

### Materials for Participants

- *Becoming Like Jesus Study Guide* (with streaming video access)
- Bible and pen
- *Becoming Like Jesus* book (optional)



### Ideal Size:

8-10 participants

### Great for:

Men’s Groups  
Women’s Groups  
Mixed Groups  
New and Mature Believers



### Facilitation:

The leader acts as a facilitator rather than a teacher, guiding the experience and cultivating a safe environment for growth.

## About the Author

**Matt Chandler** is a husband, father, pastor, elder, and author whose greatest desire is to make much of Jesus. He has served for over twenty years as the Lead Pastor at The Village Church in Flower Mound, Texas, which recently transitioned its five campuses into their own autonomous churches. He is also the Executive Chairman of the Acts 29 Network, a large church-planting community that trains and equips church planters across the globe. Matt is known around the world for proclaiming the gospel in a powerful and down-to-earth way and enjoys traveling to share the message of Jesus whenever he can. He lives in Texas with his beautiful wife, Lauren, and their three children: Audrey, Reid, and Norah.



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