

August 24, 2014  
Pastor Mike Albin

Living Hope Church

### Let's Practice Jesus' Blessed Life!

*Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.*

Matthew 5:4

Jesus' Blessings are growth goals for His disciples to practice frequently as we are empowered by His Holy Spirit living unhindered in us.

#### *Blessed*

Like the "*happy*" islanders of Cyprus.

Like the Hebrew word "*blessed*" which means to be approved and honored. Jesus' disciples stand approved before God because He died in our place for our sins and imputes His righteousness to us.

When we are blessed by God, we are like those who lived on Cyprus who had everything they needed on island to be content and happy. They didn't need to go off island or to import what they needed to thrive. Likewise, our happiness does not come from circumstances, or accidents, or force of will, but from being approved by God. Jesus is all we need to be happy and practice contentment.

#### *are those who mourn*

Like Isaiah—"*Woe is me! For I am undone.*" Isaiah 6:5

Like Peter—"he went outside and wept bitterly." Matthew 26:75

Not like Judas—"then he went away and hanged himself." Matthew 27:5

*for they will be comforted.*

Like Peter—*“and when you have turned back...”* Luke 22:31;

—*“Simon son of John, do you love me?”* John 21:15-22

**Comfort** literally means “calling to one’s side for help”.

**Jesus’ comfort is available now.**

*And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor to be with you forever—the Spirit of truth.* John 14:16,17

Next Sunday: *“Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.”* Matthew 5:5