

SERMON NOTES

Draw Near: And Be Inspired
Matthew 5:1-2; 7:28-29 (Mark 1:22; Luke 4:32)

As Jesus began His ministry, He was often followed by crowds, multitudes of people. He traveled throughout all the region of Galilee. Jesus was teaching in the synagogues, proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom, casting out demons, and performing many miracles. Seeing the multitudes, He ascended an unnamed mountain to teach (Matthew 5:1-2). This setting is emphasized again at the end of the sermon of the mount (Matthew 8:1). This mountain, unnamed until Jesus taught there, was one of many hills that slope gently from the north shore of the Sea of Galilee. Today, this mountain is called "The Mount of Beatitudes." MacArthur calls it "the sanctuary for the greatest sermon ever preached." On this mountain, the disciples drew near to Jesus and were inspired to a deeper commitment after hearing Him speak.

Key thought: You will be inspired to a deeper commitment to Jesus Christ when you draw near and let His Words change your life.

ARE YOU READY TO HEAR GOD'S WORD?

What if we entered Bible study and worship services saying...

- I want God to speak to me
- I am willing for God to speak to me about anything and everything in my life
- I am unwilling to leave the same way I arrived

WHAT IS YOUR SPIRITUAL CONDITION?

- The casual person – follows Him for His ability
- The curious person – follows Him for His notoriety (see John 6:66)
- The committed person – follows Him for His authority

HOW WILL YOU RECEIVE AND RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD?

"The teaching of Jesus amazed those who heard because He spoke with authority. You cannot ignore what He says without paying a terrible price, but you will not hear and heed what Jesus says unless your heart is in the right place."
Unknown

- Conviction - *2 Kings 22:11-13; Acts 2:37*
- Comfort - *Psalms 119:49-56*
- Confirmation – *2 Timothy 3:16*
- Commitment - *Isaiah 6:8*