



# Yes, but

## GROWTH GUIDE FEBRUARY 16, 2025

*Scripture: Luke 6:17-26*

### AUTHOR

Luke, a Gentile, Greek, doctor, close friend and companion of the Apostle Paul. Luke was a historian, put great emphasis on dates and details, and connected Jesus to events and people in history. Luke's purpose was to present an accurate account of the life of Jesus. He stressed Jesus' relationships with people, gave a prominent place to women and showed Jesus' concern for women. Luke wrote his gospel around A.D. 60, from Rome or possibly from Caesarea, and it is the most comprehensive of the gospels.

### CONTEXT

Jesus' ministry continues as he disrupts the status quo and challenges how the Sabbath Law is interpreted. After praying all night, Jesus chooses 12 disciples (followers) that will be his apostles – sent out as messengers with delegated authority. Our scripture passage today is Luke's version of The Sermon on the Mount found in Matthew 5-7. It's sometimes called The Sermon on the Plains.

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Read Luke 6:17-26. Why were the people there and what were they trying to do?
2. Luke 6:20-23 is referred to as Blessings (Or Beatitudes, from the Latin word meaning blessing). Luke 6:24-26 are referred to as "Woes." Compare these Blessings and Woes with Matthew's Beatitudes found in Matthew 5:3-12. How do these 2 accounts differ?
3. Read Luke 6:20-23 again. Why are the poor blessed? What will they gain?
4. Will this take place only in the future? The tense of this blessing is significant.

5. How would you compare Kingdom values with worldly values?
6. God especially cares for the poor. Take a look at Psalm 22:24, 25:16, 34:6, 40:17, and 69:29. How does God respond to the poor?
7. Riches were seen as a sign of God's favor. How do you think the poor responded to this teaching? Read these examples of God's concern for the poor and needy: Psalm 146:7, Isaiah 58:7, and Jesus' mother, Mary's prayer, in Luke 1:53.
8. Being a follower of Jesus is not easy. Have you dealt with any of the scenarios mentioned in verse 23? If so, did this challenge your faith?
9. Read Luke 6:24-26 again. Contrast the disciples who gave up everything to follow Jesus and the people in these verses. Do they mirror our culture?
10. What did you learn about the Kingdom of God in the scripture passage today?
11. Does any of Jesus' teaching in the Blessings and Woes challenge you?
12. Jesus proclaims good news to the poor. How is the church proclaiming good news to the poor?
13. On the day Jesus gave this sermon, people were desperate to hear good news and to experience healing. How is this relevant to today?
14. How can we proclaim good news and bring healing to our neighbors?

### NOTES