## Toward a Blessed Life: Knowing and Living the Beatitudes by Fr. Michael Crosby O.F.M., Cap., S.T.L., Ph.D.

A deeper examination of Matthew's Gospel shows that while the "code of conduct" laid out in the Beatitudes is meant for all people, one group in particular, those known as his disciples, are called to be formed by its values—personally, communally and collectively. Jesus' disciples are those who follow him in his vision and effort to create an alternative community, defined by the Beatitudes, defiant of the wider culture. Following his way of wisdom Jesus' disciples build their lives, their relationships as well as their church, to be a house built on solid rock so they can be "salt for the earth" and "light for the world."

The Context for the Beatitudes and Matthew's Gospel

The Beatitudes: A Call to All, a Chosen Way for Disciples

The Meaning of Beatitudes in Society and Scripture

The Call to be Poor in Spirit in a World of Riches and Entitlement

Developing Further What We Mean by Poor in Spirit

The Woman with the Alabaster Jar as a Model of One Who was Poor in Spirit

What the "Kingdom" of Heaven is Not

What is the Kingdom of Heaven and How Do We Enter It?

Blessed Are Those Who Mourn, They Will be Comforted

Applying the Second Beatitude to Our Lives

How Jesus Models the Third Beatitude

How We Deal With Threats to Our Wealth

How Jesus is the Model of the One Who was Blessed

Hungering and Thirsting for Justice in a World of Hunger

Acting Justly through Almsgiving, Prayer, and Fasting

Blessed are the Merciful, They Will Receive Mercy

Forgiveness: the Work of Mercy

Compassion: the Kiss of Justice and Mercy
The Blessedness of Having a Pure Heart
Single-Mindedness: Becoming Pure of Heart

Blessed Are the Peacemakers

Becoming Brothers and Sisters in the Household of Faith

Blessed are Those Persecuted for Justice Sake

The Conclusion of the Beatitudes

24 25-Minute Topics on 8 Audio CDs with Written Guide on CD