

**Sermon Notes – October 16, 2016**  
**“Blessed Even Though ...”**  
**Matthew 5:1-16**  
**Pastor Bill Hoffman**

Verses 3-12. Of the nine statements Jesus makes about people who are “blessed,” which describe qualities you consider to be positive, worth striving for?

- What about the others?

If the overall thrust of Jesus’ ministry is that in him “the kingdom of heaven is near” (Matthew 3:2, 4:17, 10:7), and in Matthew 5:3-12 he is giving illustrations of the kinds of people to whom the kingdom of heaven can be near, how does this impact your understanding of what he says here?

Verses 13-16. What does Jesus mean by “salt” and “light”?

- Assuming that he is speaking to the same people as in verses 3-12, does a person need to have their act pretty well together before they can be used of God to influence the world?