**OCF Small Groups:** *passionately pursuing God, healthy relationships with each other, and people who don’t know Jesus, as part of an intimate group living this life of faith together.*

This Week’s Scripture: **Luke 6:17-36**

1. Think of a time when you experienced the joy of anticipation in the midst challenging circumstances. What were you expecting to happen that made you so excited in spite of your trials?
2. In verses 20-22, what does Jesus mean by “blessed” and the timing of that blessing?
3. Is Jesus exhorting us to be poor, hungry, weeping, and hated? Why or why not?
4. What forms of persecution have you experienced for being a Christian?
5. In verses 24-26, does Jesus have a problem with people who are rich, full, laughing, and who have a good reputation? Why or why not?
6. In verse 17, what is significant about the people who came to see Jesus from the cities of Tyre and Sidon? Hint: Are they mostly friends or enemies of the Jews?
7. What are some ways you can “do good” and love your enemies?
8. In verse 36 Jesus says, “Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful.” How do we become the kind of person who is merciful?

* **Meditate on Romans 12:14 this week**

Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them.

* **Spend time in prayer each day this week** thanking God that you belong to him and will be blessed by him no matter what your circumstances are. Ask, “Lord Jesus, please help me to bless my enemies and demonstrate my love toward them.”