

## **Marinating in God's Word: Matthew 5:9, Luke 4:16-21**

Where Jesus is there is blessing. It's basic to our new life in him. So we're exploring all the ways he blesses us, using his blessings in the gospels.

For further reflection on your own or in a small group, consider these questions:

- Who is a peacemaker you've known personally, and how did he/she make peace? Who is someone you respect as a peacemaker in the public sector, and how does he/she make peace?
- When Jesus thought of peace, he had something fuller in mind than simply the absence of conflict. Judging from his description of his mission in Luke 4:16-19, Jesus meant by peace something akin to the Old Testament concept of Shalom. What is that? What would be the difference between a shalom maker and a peacemaker?
- How does Jesus make peace (shalom) in us as believers? How is that shalom expressed in the church? Can we take it beyond the church? How? What examples do you see of Christians making peace in our city and beyond?
- Jesus blesses his "shalom people" as they take that shalom into the world. What difference does his blessing make?

Next Sunday we will focus upon Matthew 11:1-6.