

Marinating in God's Word: Matthew 11:2-6

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:

- John the Baptist prophesied that the Messiah was soon to appear, and when Jesus began his ministry John said, "This is he!" (see John 1:29-34) But later, when John was imprisoned, he wondered if Jesus really was the Messiah, and so he sent his disciples to ask Jesus. What do you suppose caused the change in John's certainty?
- Looking back at Mt 3:11-12, what sort of Messiah was John expecting? How was Jesus different?
- When John's disciples asked Jesus if he were the Messiah, he picked various parts of his ministry to answer. What do you notice about these (v 4-5)?
- When you began your Christian life, what did you expect it to be like? How have your expectations changed? What changed them? How do you see Jesus differently than you did when you began as a disciple? Has Jesus done, or not done, something in your life that offended you?
- V. 6 is a surprising beatitude (compare 5:3-12). Jesus is gentle with John by setting the "belief bar" very low. How might this illumine our own efforts to share our faith? To pray boldly?

Next week we will focus upon Romans 8:18-25, Psalm 33:12-22, and Numbers 6:22-26.