

# NOT NORMAL



## GOING DEEPER AT HOME

### MARCH 13: ULTIMATE REWARD

We love rewards. Whether it's a reward for doing something good like returning a lost item, for doing well in school, or earning rewards on our credit card so we can travel or get cash back, we love being rewarded. As we wrap up the beatitudes Jesus points us to the ultimate reward of life in the Kingdom of Heaven, that it comes when we are persecuted for His name sake. This may not sound exciting and inviting to us, but Jesus reminds us our life is not about our comfort, but about what God is doing.

#### SCRIPTURE:

Matthew 5:10 - 12

1 Peter 4:14 - 16

#### GOING DEEPER QUESTIONS:

1. Share a time you received a reward for doing something. How did it make you feel? If you can't think of a time, what is a reward you would like to have & why?
2. What is something from the message that stood out to you, was new to you or challenged you?
3. Do you see persecution as being "God's favour is on me" or do you see it as "the world is out to get me?" Why do you see it this way?
4. What is the difference between being persecuted and losing privilege? Which one of these do you think we tend to experience in Canada & why?
5. Jesus says when we are persecuted we will have the Kingdom of Heaven, which is what He says for the poor in spirit. Why does He come full circle and repeat Himself?
6. Read Matthew 5:11 & 12. Jesus gives further explanation on persecution and then tells us to rejoice. Why would He tell us to rejoice when we are persecuted? How does that compare to your response to persecution?
7. Read 1 Peter 4:14 - 16. As you read Peter's words with Jesus' words, what do you think our reward is?
8. What step is the Holy Spirit asking you to take right now?