



The best things in life are the things that make us more like God

Different people have different ideas about what would make them happy. Unfortunately, most people find that their pursuit of happiness does not lead them where they want to go — they discover after a while that the things they've been pursuing aren't really the things that provide true happiness. The Christian, however, ought to realize that *the best things in life are the things that make us more like God*. To the extent that we begin to conform ourselves to the mind of God, we will find life getting better.

It is an interesting fact that many of the things that we would define as “good” because they draw us closer to God are those that the world would define as “bad.” For example, difficulty and pain can have a beneficial spiritual effect on us, but to say that these things are good is to say the opposite of what the world would say. James wrote, “Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness” ([Jas. 1:2,3](#)). Seeing things from God's perspective often causes us to “evaluate” things quite differently.

The “blessed” person, according to Jesus' description in the Beatitudes in [Mt. 5:1-12](#), is not blessed because of his bank account, his importance in life, or his power over other people. *Continued on the next page*

