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Let me repeat that again:

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These words from Saint Pope Paul VI spoken in 1975 still ring true for us today do they not in 2023?

Yes, we like to see people who walk the walk.

This is true for our leaders, whether political or religious, or even our coworkers, family and friends.

Today in our Gospel from St. Matthew we hear from Jesus Christ the Teacher. The Gospel says that

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he had sat down, his disciples came to him. He began to teach them...

Today Jesus Christ in this Eucharist -- in this Church he calls us to sit down and to listen to his teachings. Today we hear the famous Beatitudes. Those ways of being and acting that if done with a sincere heart lead us to true beatitude, true happiness.

Today I want to look at 3 of the Beatitudes today with you. Yet I want to show how Jesus is not just the teacher who says these words but he is also the witness himself of these words. He not only taught but us by his example of what it looks to live these out.

The First: Blessed are those who are poor in Spirit for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are those people who know that all they have and all they are comes as a gift -- comes from above. Jesus knew this -- when he said:

...I did not speak on my own, but the Father who sent me commanded me what to say and speak. And I know that his commandment is eternal life. So what I say, I say as the Father told me... (john 12:49)

or when he said:

Father, they are your gift to me. I wish that where I am^[g] they also may be with me, that they may see my glory that you gave me, because you loved me before the foundation of the world...

Christ here models for us our own call to live with open hands...to receive from the Father...Blessed are those hands who receive....

The Second: Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.

Blessed are those who see and interact with others in way that God would see and interact with them. Blessed are those who treat others in way that recognizes their dignity and journey from and to God...

Jesus models what it means to be merciful:

To the woman caught in adultery: **“Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?” She replied, “No one, sir.” Then Jesus said, “Neither do I condemn you. Go, [and] from now on do not sin any more.”]**

Or from the Cross to his executioners: **Father forgive for they know not what they do.**

Jesus is a man of mercy indeed.

And Third: **Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be satisfied.** Yes, blessed are you when you desire better things in life for youm for your spouse, family, your children, the world...Blesswed are you when you long for a world free of disease, free of sorrow...free of hurt...But also are you when you desire that people know the Lord in a deeper way...when you long for people to live in a way that is based on the Lord's will and not from another set of commandments...

Did not Jesus on the Cross thirst? He was thirsting for physical water yes...but he was thirsting for people to come to know him...and to receive what he had received from His Father. --- Blessed are are those who in about the business of quenching this of Jesus...

And so we have Jesus...our teacher today showing us...and being a witness of his own teachings...

Yet he also is the one who enables us...gives us strength to carry out and live these teachings...soon...He will offer you his body and blood as a means to be strengthend in Him...

We heard from saint paul speak about how Christ...is our helper...Let's receive these words...let's receive this Divine help come down to earth with open hearts...and open hands:

Consider your own calling, brothers and sisters.
Not many of you were wise by human standards,
not many were powerful,
not many were of noble birth.

Rather, God chose the foolish of the world to shame the wise,

and God chose the weak of the world to shame the strong,
and God chose the lowly and despised of the world,
those who count for nothing,
to reduce to nothing those who are something,
so that no human being might boast before God.
It is due to him that you are in Christ Jesus,
who became for us wisdom from God,
as well as righteousness, sanctification, and redemption,
so that, as it is written,
"Whoever boasts, should boast in the Lord."