



Social Media and Me

[Matthew 5:1-16](#)

First in a 3-part series titled Medial on the Mount

Pastor Matt Friend – August 20 & 23, 2020

What's today's big idea?

The greatest influence on social media is a flourishing follower of Jesus.

“Flourishing” is so much more than temporal happiness...

- In botany (dendrology), it refers to “rapidly growing and thriving trees.”
- In psychology, it refers to “a state where people experience positive emotions, psychological and social functioning, most of the time.”
- In the Bible, it refers to “overall shalom; wholeness; to be at peace with one’s self, with others, and with God.” ([Psalm 1](#); [2:12](#); [33:12](#); Proverbs [3:13](#); [14:21](#); [29:18](#))
- In life, it plays a part in physical, intellectual, social, emotional, spiritual, financial, sexual, occupational, environmental, and family wellness.
- The Sermon on the Mount is Jesus’ invitation for us to reflect God’s beauty (beatitudes).

Who's a flourishing follower of Jesus?

A person who has found favor with God, repented, and is in the process of being transformed—in community with other believers and in every area of life—for the benefit of a world that desperately needs God’s love ([Matthew 5-7](#); cf. [4:17](#); [19:21](#))

Why does God want you to flourish on social media? Because...

Your witness and public influence depend on it. ([Matthew 5:13-16](#))

What does God invite you to do in order to flourish on social media?

- #1 – Act humbly, not proudly. (5:3)
- #2 – Wisely share your hard times, not just your good times. (5:4)
- #3 – Respond gently, not aggressively. (5:5, 38-42)
- #4 – Model ultimate satisfaction in God, not other pleasures. (5:6, 27-32)
- #5 – Show grace, not a grudge. (5:7, 43-47)
- #6 – Be real, not fake. (5:8, 33-37)
- #7 – Be known as a peacemaker, not a pot-stirrer. (5:9, 21-26)
- #8 – Make sure you’re persecuted for good reasons, not for being a “Jesus jerk.” (5:10-12)

Why do these things? Because...

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