Session 1
Introduction & Overview

I. Introduction

A. Class overview

B. Goal – the Knowledge of God

1. 1 Tim 1:3-5
2. To Know Him – Love from a pure heart
   a. 1 Jn 5:20
3. Knowledge – facts that our conscience leans on
   a. I Cor 8:1
4. Faith – Sincere faith
   a. Heb 11:6

C. More than a nice thought…

D. Context, context, under the tutelage of the master teacher, Holy Spirit.

1. Context in the story
2. The Kingdom of Heaven

II. Sermon the Mount - overview

A. The State of Our heart, His garden

1. The heart of man –
   a. Source of life: Prov 4:23 (64x)
   b. 215 distinct descriptions of the heart
   c. Is 29:13 Draw near me with their words, Honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from Me.
   d. Mt 5:8, 28; 6:21; Mt 12:34; 13:19; 15:18-19; 18:35
2. Song of Solomon 4:9-5:1

B. Beatitudes – the flowers of our garden

1. 5.
2. 6.
3. 7.
4. 8.

C. The Law & the Prophets
   1. My words will not fail, I am zealous for my words

D. The Toxins –'old man' of our flesh that hinder these flowers
   1. Anger
   2. Immorality
   3. Disregard for sanctity of marriage
   4. Not keeping our commitments
   5. Retaliation
   6. Passive love of enemies

E. Cultivating the Garden – Kingdom activities that feed the garden
   1. Giving
   2. Serving
   3. Praying
   4. Fasting
   5. Forgiving

F. Where is your heart?
   1. Where is your treasure, truly?
   2. How your heart lives will tell you.

G. My Plumbline – my Words – the proper way to judge.
   1. Search your own heart first
      a. Judge yourself first
      b. Help your brother 2nd
      c. Be wise on who you exend your energy on
   2. Seek diligently for more help
      a. The Father is eagerly ready to help you discern
      b. You want to be judged with mercy? Do so for others.
   3. Judge wisely between the narrow and broad way
      a. Wide and easy – leads to destruction - loss
      b. Narrow and difficult – leads to life – vibrant heart
   4. It is wisdom to align with Me
      a. Judge the fruit of the teachers and prophets
         (1) Do their own lives align with Jesus' words?
         (2) Do their teachings produce disciples that are fervently pursuing Jesus and seeking to align with Him?
      b. Spectrum of teachers
      c. Build your life upon My Words so that you may weather the storms.