Blessed: Makarios—joyful, happy, fortunate, enviable, to be congratulated. Persecuted: Dioko—"to put to flight, drive away, to pursue."

Use the definitions above to rewrite Matthew 5:10-12 in your own words.

What forms did persecution take in the life of Jesus, and how did He respond?

John 5:16, 11:45-53 Matthew 2:16-18 Matthew 12:22-29 Matthew 26:57-68 Luke 428-30 Mark 5:11-17

**2** How were New Testament Christians Persecuted? How are Christians persecuted today?

Acts 4:1-3 Acts 5:17-27 Acts 7:59 Acts12:2 Acts 13:50

Why would the world persecute Christ and His followers? What is a Christians response to persecution? Does God have a purpose in persecution?

John 7:5-7 John 15:18-20 Luke 21:12-19 Acts 4:4 I Peter 1:6-9

5 What delivers me from persecution or prepares me for it?

John 16:33 Acts 16:25-26 Hebrews 12:2-3 I Peter 2:20-21 Revelation 2:10

## Building by the Blueprint

What is God asking you to do that might invite persecution? Is God leading you to do something or say something where you might be opposed? Are you willing to obey regardless of the consequences?

