

The Beatitudes Message Series: "Poor in Spirit"

Sunday, January 7, 2024 @ 10:30AM | Worship Center

Matthew 5:1-12...The Sermon on the Mount; The Beatitudes

5 When Jesus saw the crowds, He went up on the mountain; and after He sat down, His disciples came to Him. **2** He opened His mouth and *began* to teach them, saying, **3** "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. **4** "Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. **5** "Blessed are the gentle, for they shall inherit the earth. **6** "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied. **7** "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy. **8** "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God. **9** "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God. **10** "Blessed are those who have been persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. **11** "Blessed are you when people insult you and persecute you, and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. **12** Rejoice and be glad, for your reward in heaven is great; for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

The Sermon on the Mount is the best sermon ever written by the best sermon writer and delivered by the best preacher in all the world, the Lord Jesus Christ.

"The 'poor in spirit' are those who recognize their natural unworthiness to stand in God's presence, and who depend utterly on Him for His mercy and grace. They do not trust in their own goodness or possessions or anything of their own for God's acceptance." – A.W. Tozer

"You are a truly humble man when you are truly despised in your own eyes." – Barclay

How do I develop the spirit of being poor in spirit?

- **I must humbly admit I need help.**

"God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble." – James 4:6 (NLT); "You will never succeed in life if you try to hide your sins. Confess them and give them up; then God will show mercy to you." Proverbs 28:13 (GNT)

- **I need to humbly ask God for help.**

“We saw how powerless we were to help ourselves; but that was good, for then we put everything into the hands of God, who alone could save us, for he can even raise the dead.” 2 Corinthians. 1: 9 (The Living Bible)

- **I must humbly accept help from other people.**

“Two are better than one because they have a good return for their labor. For if either of them falls, the one will lift up his companion.”

Ecclesiastes 4:9-10 (NASB); “Therefore, **confess your sins** to one another, and pray for one another so that you may be healed. The effective prayer of a righteous man can accomplish much.”

James 5:16 (NASB)

“When we were unable to help ourselves, at the right time, Christ died for us...”

Romans 5: 6 (NCV)