



**Fusion Christian Church**

**Pastor Zachary Elliott**

**Sunday, October 15 2023**

## **Blessed are the Poor in Spirit**

**Matthew 5:1-12**

*Now when Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him, and he began to teach them.*

*He said: "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.*

*Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.*

*Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.*

*Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.*

*Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.*

*Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.*

*Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.*

*Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.*

*Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, 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.**

**Luke 18:9-14**

*To some who were confident of their own righteousness and looked down on everyone else, Jesus told this parable: “Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector.*

*The Pharisee stood by himself and prayed: ‘God, I thank you that I am not like other people—robbers, evildoers, adulterers—or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get.’*

*“But the tax collector stood at a distance. He would not even look up to heaven, but beat his breast and said, ‘God, have mercy on me, a sinner.’*

*“I tell you that this man, rather than the other, went home justified before God. For all those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.”*

- **What being poor in spirit doesn’t mean:**

It doesn’t mean you compare yourself.

It doesn’t mean you elevate yourself.

It doesn’t mean you trust in yourself.

It doesn’t mean you justify yourself.

It doesn’t mean you worship yourself.

**Matthew 7:13-14**

*“Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it.”*

- **What being poor in spirit does mean:**

You recognize that you have fallen short.

You admit you’re a sinner.

You call out for mercy and forgiveness.

You trust in the grace of God through Jesus Christ.

**John 3:3**

*Jesus replied, “Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again.*