



# The Beatitudes

## Discussion Guide – Blessed are the Poor in Spirit (Matthew 5:3)

### Main Idea

This week, Pastor Matt kicked off our new series with the first of the Beatitudes: “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven” (Matthew 5:3 NIV). Another way to say “poor in spirit” is “having an absolute need for God.” Because we live in America, many of us don’t realize how “poor” we really are spiritually. As Pastor Matt said, “We will never depend on something we don’t think we need.” But it’s vital for us to recognize our need for God. Without Jesus, we pay for our own sins. Without Jesus, we can only cope through our pain and our personhood. Without Jesus, we try to find or create our own life. And without Jesus, we live our lives for joys that fade away. Jesus is our only hope for salvation, healing, redemption, and fulfillment. Let’s recognize how much we need Him and depend on Him completely. If we live like this, we will experience the Kingdom of Heaven.

### Make It Practical

- Go to Jesus for salvation, forgiveness, and eternal life.
- Go to Jesus for the power to be healed and transformed.
- Go to Jesus to find out who you are and what your life is all about.
- Go to Jesus to experience the joy of living a life that glorifies God and impacts others.

**“Blessed are those who recognize they are spiritually helpless. The Kingdom of Heaven belongs to them.”**

**Matthew 5:3 GW**

### Talk About It

1. Do you feel like you live every day aware of your need for Jesus? Explain your answer.
2. In what situations do you tend to depend on yourself? How do you feel when the weight of that responsibility is on your shoulders?
3. What does it look like to live dependent upon God?
4. In what area of your life do you need to recognize your need for Him today?

# **“Jesus, I need you.”**

## **Prayer**

Jesus, I recognize that I am spiritually destitute without You. You are the only One who can give me what I truly need. You are my only source of salvation, healing, redemption, and fulfillment. Help me remember every day how helpless I am without You. As I live in complete dependence upon You, let me experience the fullness of the Kingdom of Heaven. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

## **Leader Tips**

Share your own reflections from this message with your group. What convicted you? What encouraged you? Your vulnerability will encourage your group members to open up as well.

## **Scriptures Used**

Matthew 5:1-12, Revelation 3:15-17, Romans 3:23, Romans 6:23, Ephesians 2:1-5, Jeremiah 6:14, 1 Peter 2:24-25, Galatians 5:22-23, Jeremiah 29:11, Acts 17:26-28, 1 Peter 1:3-4, John 15:8-11