

Response Questions
August 22, 2021 | Matthew 5:1-12
The Beatitudes: Blessed Are the Poor in Spirit

1. What kind of person or what kind of character comes to mind when you think of someone “poor in spirit”? What other qualities do they possess?
2. What does it mean to be “poor in spirit”?
3. How does this first beatitude relate to all the others?
4. How did poverty of spirit play a part in the beginning of your relationship with God by faith?
5. How are you “poor in spirit” now? Or in what way do you currently experience poverty of spirit?
6. What is the antithesis of poverty of spirit? Where does our Western culture land on this subject, and how do we see it play out in everyday life?
7. What impact does our culture’s preoccupation with self-focus have on our own thought life?
8. The present tense of the word “is” in verse three indicates that this is not only a promise for the future but a promise for the here and now. Does that seem real to you? In what ways do we begin to experience the kingdom of heaven while we’re still here on earth?
9. How has the recognition of your own poverty of spirit enhanced your relationship with God?