

HOW? : Sermon on the Mount | 2/23/2020

A Seattle Church: [@aseattlechurch](#)

Tyler Gorsline: [@tylergorsline](#)

Today's Focus: Disciples follow Jesus by understanding their desperate need for Him as the “poor in Spirit”. By drawing close to others who are poor in Spirit, with Jesus.

Passage: Matthew 5:3:

“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven.”

Supporting Passages;

Mark 10:17-31: *The Rich and the Kingdom of God*

17 As Jesus started on his way, a man ran up to him and fell on his knees before him. “Good teacher,” he asked, “what must I do to inherit eternal life?”

18 “Why do you call me good?” Jesus answered. “No one is good—except God alone. 19 You know the commandments: ‘You shall not murder, you shall not commit adultery, you shall not steal, you shall not give false testimony, you shall not defraud, honor your father and mother.’[a]”

20 “Teacher,” he declared, “all these I have kept since I was a boy.”

21 Jesus looked at him and loved him. “One thing you lack,” he said. “Go, sell everything you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me.”

22 At this the man’s face fell. He went away sad, because he had great wealth.

23 Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, “How hard it is for the rich to enter the kingdom of God!”

24 The disciples were amazed at his words. But Jesus said again, “Children, how hard it is[b] to enter the kingdom of God! 25 It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.”

26 The disciples were even more amazed, and said to each other, “Who then can be saved?”

27 Jesus looked at them and said, “With man this is impossible, but not with God; all things are possible with God.”

28 Then Peter spoke up, “We have left everything to follow you!”

29 “Truly I tell you,” Jesus replied, “no one who has left home or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields for me and the gospel 30 will fail to receive a hundred times as much in this present age: homes, brothers, sisters, mothers, children and fields—along with persecutions—and in the age to come eternal life. 31 But many who are first will be last, and the last first.”

James 4:6-10

6 But he gives us more grace. That is why Scripture says: "God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble." 7 Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. 8 Come near to God and he will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. 9 Grieve, mourn and wail. Change your laughter to mourning and your joy to gloom. 10 Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up.

THIS WEEK'S REFLECTION FOR YOU & YOUR ASC SMALL GROUP

1. **(Matthew 5:3)**: What does it mean to be "poor in spirit"? How might this way of being actually be a blessing?
2. **(Matthew 5:3)**: How do you define the Kingdom of God? Where does ASC fit in the Kingdom? How can we be a blessing to others who are "poor in Spirit"?
3. **(John 14:6)**: How might a posture of being "poor in spirit" inform your understanding of Jesus as "the way, the truth, and the life"?
4. **(Matthew 28:16-20)**: How can ASC expand the Kingdom of God across the city of Seattle and beyond? What role can you play in the disciple-making described in Matthew 28?

APPLICATION (NEXT STEPS THIS WEEK)

- 1) Begin Memorizing the *Sermon on the Mount* starting with the last two week's passages (Matt 5:1-3)
- 2) Evaluate if you are living as if you are "poor in spirit". Are you desperate for Jesus or just fitting him in to your life? Are you joining Jesus in caring for those who are "poor in spirit"?