



Be Humble

February 12, 2023

INTRODUCTION

Blessed are the Poor in Spirit (Matthew 5:3)

³ *“Blessed are the poor in spirit,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.*

The Pharisee and the Tax Collector (Luke 18:9-14)

⁹ *To some who were confident of their own righteousness and looked down on everyone else, Jesus told this parable:*

¹⁰ *“Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. ¹¹ 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. ¹² I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get.’*

What is the kind of heart that God esteems?

¹³ *“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.’*

¹⁴ *“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.”*

There are lots of Christians who will inherit the Kingdom of God *someday*, but totally miss it on the way.

Related passages: 1 Peter 5:5; Isaiah 57:15; 66:2

CONCLUSION

Colossians 3:12-14

¹² *Therefore, as God’s chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. ¹³ Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. ¹⁴ And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.*

“Although my memory’s fading, I remember two things very clearly: I am a great sinner and Christ is a great Savior.”—John Newton

Questions for Personal Reflection/Group Discussion

1. Take some time and work through the “Search Me O God” worksheet, asking God to reveal those are of pride (lack of brokenness) and prayerfully discern what humility in that specific area might look like.
2. What is the kind of heart that God esteems (Isaiah 66:2)? Does this describe your heart currently? What needs to change?
3. In what ways does someone who is poor in spirit experience NOW the Kingdom of God?