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# BLESSED ARE THE POOR IN SPIRIT

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# MATTHEW 5:1-10

Now when Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him,<sup>2</sup> and he began to teach them.

# MATTHEW 5:1-10

“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. <sup>4</sup> Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. <sup>5</sup> Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. <sup>6</sup> Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

# MATTHEW 5:1-10

Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy. <sup>8</sup> Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. <sup>9</sup> Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. <sup>10</sup> Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, 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: <sup>10</sup> “Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. <sup>11</sup> 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.

# LUKE 18:9-14

<sup>12</sup> I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get.’

<sup>13</sup> “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.’

<sup>14</sup> “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.”

# PHARISEE (PRIDE)

1. Condescending and judgmental towards others.
2. His prayer was only about himself.

# PUBLICAN (HUMILITY)

1. Reverence and fear of the Lord.
2. Asks for mercy and repents.



# JAMES 4:6-10

But he gives us more grace. That is why Scripture says: “God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble.”<sup>7</sup> Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.<sup>8</sup> Come near to God and he will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

# JAMES 4:6-10

<sup>9</sup> Grieve, mourn and wail. Change your laughter to mourning and your joy to gloom. <sup>10</sup> Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up.

# POOR IN SPIRIT IS NOT:

- Self-esteem
- Self-determination
- Self confidence
- Self-reliance

# EPHESIANS 2:1-2

As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, <sup>2</sup> in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient.

# JAMES 4:4

You adulterous people, don't you know that friendship with the world means enmity against God? Therefore, anyone who chooses to be a friend of the world becomes an enemy of God.

# DEFINITION

➤ **Enmity:** hostile or opposed

# DEFINITION

- Poor in Spirit: to be totally dependent on God for our spiritual well-being.

## 2 QUESTIONS:

1. Is there a situation that I cannot fix?
2. Is God allowing that particular situation to increase my dependence on Him?



## MATTHEW 5:3 (AMP)

“Blessed [spiritually prosperous, happy, to be admired] are the poor in spirit [those devoid of spiritual arrogance, those who regard themselves as insignificant], for theirs is the kingdom of heaven [both now and forever].

# ISAIAH 6:5

“Woe to me!” I cried. “I am ruined! For I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips, and my eyes have seen the King, the LORD Almighty.”

# ISAIAH 6:6-8

Then one of the seraphim flew to me with a live coal in his hand, which he had taken with tongs from the altar. <sup>7</sup> With it he touched my mouth and said, “See, this has touched your lips; your guilt is taken away and your sin atoned for.” <sup>8</sup> Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?” And I said, “Here am I. Send me!”

# NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION

May we rely on God  
more this year.

## 2 CORINTHIANS 12:8-10

Three times I pleaded with the Lord to take it away from me.<sup>9</sup> But he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ’s power may rest on me.<sup>10</sup> That is why, for Christ’s sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

## 5 EXCUSES OF MOSES

- I'm not good enough
  - Exodus 3:11 But Moses said to God, “Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?”
- I don't have all the answers
  - Exodus 3:13 Moses said to God, “Suppose I go to the Israelites and say to them, ‘The God of your fathers has sent me to you,’ and they ask me, ‘What is his name?’ Then what shall I tell them?”

## 5 EXCUSES OF MOSES

- The people won't believe me
  - Exodus 4:1 Moses answered, “What if they do not believe me or listen to me and say, ‘The LORD did not appear to you?’”
- I'm not a good public speaker
  - Exodus 4:10 Moses said to the LORD, “Pardon your servant, Lord. I have never been eloquent, neither in the past nor since you have spoken to your servant. I am slow of speech and tongue.”

## 5 EXCUSES OF MOSES

➤ I'm not qualified

➤ Exodus 4:13 But Moses said, “Pardon your servant, Lord. Please send someone else.”



# TRUTH

We can't... but He can through us. - PD

## EXODUS 4:11-12

The LORD said to him, “Who gave human beings their mouths? Who makes them deaf or mute? Who gives them sight or makes them blind? Is it not I, the LORD? <sup>12</sup> Now go; I will help you speak and will teach you what to say.”

# POOR IN SPIRIT MEANS WE ARE AWARE OF OUR:

- Shortcomings
- Inadequacies
- Failures
- Helplessness
- Emptiness

# QUOTE

Don't let the tyranny of self-reliance rob you of the miraculous. - anon