



Blessed

Week 1: The Poor in Spirit

CCV Groups Discussion Guide

OPENING QUESTION:

As a group, list as many things as you can think of that money can't buy.

GROUPS VIDEO GUIDE

READ:

[Matthew 5:1-12](#)

DISCUSS:

- In what ways does our culture misunderstand or undervalue the concept of spiritual poverty?
- Can you think of a time when you felt spiritually poor? How did that experience draw you closer to God?
- Read [Psalm 34:18](#) and [Proverbs 16:19](#). What do these verses say about the character of God and his posture towards the broken and humble people?
- What are the rewards of being “poor in spirit,” according to Jesus? How do these rewards manifest in our daily lives?
- How does being “poor in spirit” influence how we approach prayer and worship?

GROUP CHALLENGE:

If the blessing of being “poor in spirit” is surrender and complete submission to God, what's one area you still hold from God that you need to release to him?

TAKE HOME QUESTIONS:

Table Talk (a question to ask your family): What could we do to highlight our need for God in our home?

Water Cooler (a question to ask at work): Do you have a higher or lower opinion of humble people?

PRAYER:

St. Augustine (354–430 AD) wrote extensively about the importance of humility and the recognition of one's spiritual poverty before God. In his Confessions, Augustine reflects on how his spiritual journey led him to acknowledge his deep need for God's grace. One of his prayers emphasizes the disposition of the poor in spirit, calling for humility and a complete reliance on God's mercy.

Prayer of St. Augustine for the Poor in Spirit:

*Lord,
You are the light of the minds that know You,
the life of the souls that love You,
and the strength of the hearts that seek You.
Grant us ever to seek You so that we may truly find You,
and to love You so that we may fully possess You.
May we recognize our spiritual poverty
and know that all we have and all we are is a gift from You.
Fill us with humility and trust in Your grace,
for apart from You, we are nothing.
Amen.*

SCRIPTURES:

Psalms 34:18, "The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit."

Psalms 51:17, "My sacrifice, O God, is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart you, God, will not despise."

Proverbs 16:19, "Better to be lowly in spirit along with the oppressed than to share plunder with the proud."

Luke 6:20, "Looking at his disciples, he said: 'Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God.'"

James 2:5, "Listen, my dear brothers and sisters: Has not God chosen those who are poor in the eyes of the world to be rich in faith and to inherit the kingdom he promised those who love him?"

Revelation 3:17, "You say, 'I am rich; I have acquired wealth and do not need a thing.' But you do not realize that you are wretched, pitiful, poor, blind and naked."