

“Blessed are the Poor in Spirit...”



To the leader:

Open your group in prayer, and remember that this is only a guide. Feel free to discuss each of the provided questions in the notes, or simply dive deeper into just one. Before you close with prayer, take a few minutes to look over the Three Essential Questions at the end of the page.

On Sunday, Pastor Steve kicked off our new “Upside Down” series where we are taking a look at what’s called the beatitudes in Matthew 5. These are a series of statements where Jesus says, “blessed are...” while ending the statement with a promise. We are learning about what it really means to be blessed and were initially encouraged by Steve to be “poor in spirit” which means to be rich in helpless dependence on God. We learned that the poor in spirit, confess humbly, worship deeply and serve gratefully.

“To be poor in spirit is to be rich in helpless dependence on God.”

- ◆ What is something that you are helplessly dependent on?
- ◆ What does it mean to be helplessly dependent on something?

Let’s review the points from the message Sunday:

1. Those who are poor in spirit confess humbly
 - ◆ How easy or hard is it for you to confess your shortcomings?
 - ◆ As followers of Christ, what does humble confession lead to?
 - ◆ In what way is our relationship with others supposed to be influenced by our relationship with God?

2. Those who are poor in spirit worship deeply
 - ◆ What does being “poor in spirit” have to do with worship?
 - ◆ What is the relationship between our worship and what God has done in each of us?
3. Those who are poor in spirit serve gratefully
 - ◆ In what way is serving a natural progression from experiencing life change through Christ?
 - ◆ What areas of ministry do you need to get involved with at Grace Church?

Now what?

- ◆ What shortcomings do you need to confess to God and trusted friends/family?
- ◆ In what way do you need to deepen your worship as a result of God’s work in your life?
- ◆ How are you going to plug into the ministry of God and serve others?

Three Essential Questions

1. **What did you hear?** *What point in this message was most impactful for you?*
2. **What do you think?** *How did this message challenge, change or affirm your thinking?*
3. **What will you do?** *How will you or your group put into practice what you’ve learned today?*