

Community Group Questions

NOTE: *You will not likely have time for all the questions. The goal is to have a good conversation and grow spiritually, so take your time and enjoy each other. Look up some of the extra texts, but don't worry about doing it all.*

1. What does it mean to be 'poor in spirit' in Mt. 5:3? (See also Is. 57:15; 66:1-2; Ps. 51:17; Lk. 18:9-14)? What is the opposite of being 'poor in spirit'?
2. Why is the person who is 'poor in spirit' the richest person on earth (Mt. 5:3b)?
3. What does it mean to 'mourn' in Mt. 5:4? (See also Ps. 51; Rom. 7:24; 2 Cor. 7:10). Do we 'mourn' enough as Christians? What is the danger of mourning too little? Is it possible to mourn too much?
4. What is the connection between being 'poor in spirit' and 'mourning'?
5. How does the beatitude about those who 'mourn' contrast with how the world sees sin?
6. What does it mean to be 'meek' in Mt. 5:5? What do the following passages tell us about Jesus (Mt. 11:29; 12:15-21; 21:5)? What is the opposite of being 'meek' and how is this characteristic evident inside and outside the church today?
7. What does it mean to 'hunger and thirst for righteousness' in Mt. 5:6? In contrast to Christians, what does the world 'hunger and thirst for'?

NEXT WEEK

In next week's message Pastor Cory will focus on the last four beatitudes in Matthew 5:7-12. To prepare for the message and your CG discussion, we want to encourage you to read the text and begin to talk about it. Consider the following questions:

How are these beatitudes 'counter cultural' to the way our culture thinks, feels, and behaves? Is there a beatitude in this list that is of particular relevance for the church and culture we live in?