

Spiritual Bankruptcy

Matthew 5:1-3 Luke 18:9-14

“Now is your time of grief, but I will see you again and you will rejoice, and no one will take away your joy.” John 16:22

“Jesus knew that the ideas of happiness in the Beatitudes would seem foolish to the world. So, He whispered His Beatitudes into the ears of the faithful. And they have been overheard by the world, which is haunted by their promise, though it hesitates to accept their program.”

*Now when he saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him, and he began to teach them, saying: “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. **Matthew 5:1-3***

*To some who were confident of their own righteousness and looked down on everybody else, Jesus told this parable: “Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. **Luke 18:9-10***

*The Pharisee stood up and prayed about himself: ‘God, I thank you that I am not like other men—robbers, evildoers, adulterers—or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get.’ **Luke 18:11-12***

*“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.’ **Luke 18:13***

*“I tell you that this man, rather than the other, went home justified before God. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.” **Luke 18:14***

*Therefore no one will be declared righteous in his sight by observing the law; rather, through the law we become conscious of sin. **Romans 3:20***

the straight edge of the law shows us how crooked we really are.
Romans 3:20 (Philipps Paraphrase)

*For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles at just one point is guilty of breaking all of it. **James 2:10***

How many of the Ten Commandments have you kept?

1. You shall have no other gods before Me
2. No graven images
3. Do not to take the name of the Lord your God in vain
4. Keep the Sabbath Day Holy
5. Honor your mother and your father
6. Thou shalt not kill
7. Do not commit adultery
8. Do not steal
9. Do not lie, bear false _____
10. Do not covet, want what someone else has

As it is written: "There is no one righteous, not even one; Romans 3:10

Therefore no one will be declared righteous in his sight by observing the law; rather, through the law we become conscious of sin. Romans 3:20

"Blessed are the poor in spirit."

You're blessed because you're being _____ about your condition.

Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective. James 5:16

To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, "If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." John 8:31-32

"The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field. When a man found it, he hid it again, and then in his joy went and sold all he had and bought that field.

Matthew 13:44

When Jesus heard this, he said to him, "You still lack one thing. Sell everything you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me."

Luke 18:22

When he heard this, he became very sad, because he was a man of great wealth.

Luke 18:23

But whatever was to my profit I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. What is more, I consider everything a loss compared to the surpassing greatness of knowing Christ Jesus my

Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them rubbish, that I may gain Christ
Philippians 3:8-9

How do we develop the virtue of humility?

1. We must first understand that humility is a _____ attitude and not just a singular event.

Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the worst. **1 Timothy 1:15**

I know that nothing good lives in me, that is, in my sinful nature. For I have the desire to do what is good, but I cannot carry it out. **Romans 7:18**

“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 6:5**

All of us have become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous acts are like filthy rags; we all shrivel up like a leaf, and like the wind our sins sweep us away. **Isaiah 64:6**

**The closer you get to the Lord, the more you're going to be _____
of your own spiritual poverty.**

2. We must continue to trust in Jesus Christ and not _____.

How do we develop the virtue of humility?

For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast. **Ephesians 2:8-9**

3. We must be _____ for what God gives us, instead of complaining about what we do not have.

For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich.

2 Corinthians 8:9

Key: witness, honest, continuing, aware, ourselves, grateful