

# **POOR IN SPIRIT**



***“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.”***

*Matthew 5*

## **The poor in spirit.**

They don't pretend; they just are.

They are aware of their sins and their flaws and their great need of mercy.

Like little children, trusting the love of mother and father, they turn to God in hope.

***At that time the disciples came to Jesus, saying, "Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?" And calling to him a child, he put him in the midst of them, and said, "Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.***

***Whoever humbles himself like this child, he is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.”***

*Matthew 18*

## **The centurion was poor in spirit.**

***“I am not worthy to have you come under my roof, just speak the word and my servant will be healed.”***

*Matthew 8*

This man saw what the Pharisees could not see:

**Incarnate Love.**

**The woman at the well was poor in spirit.**



**When Jesus offered her living water, she opened her heart.**

***“Give me this water!”***

When Jesus put his finger on her troubled past, she acknowledged it instantly.

***“I see you’re a prophet.”***

She shared the joy with a village that treated her with disdain.

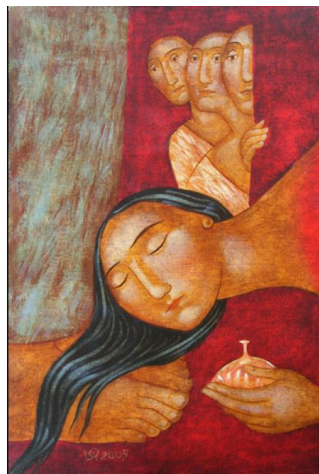
***“Come see a man who told me all I ever did! Is not this the Messiah?”***

*John 4*

**Zacchaeus was poor in spirit.**

When Jesus invited himself for dinner, Zacchaeus welcomed Jesus joyfully. This rich man was so poor in spirit that he joyfully gave away half his wealth, and committed himself to righting wrongs with immense generosity.

**The woman who washed his feet with her hair was poor in spirit.**



Before the despising eyes of Simon the Pharisee, this woman showed her gratitude to Jesus without shame---washing his feet with her tears, wiping them with her hair, kissing them with pure love.

## The door of humiliation.

Many of us have to pass through a door of humiliation in order to wake us up.

Once we are brought low, our obsession with our own importance disappears, and we begin to see the simple truth.

## The simple truth.

We are dependent upon God for every breath we take.

We walk this earth only by God's mercy.

We are freed from self-bondage only by God's forgiveness.

Apart from God our lives are but shadows.



***“Blessed are the poor in spirit,  
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.”***

*Prayer: Yes Lord, we are dependent on you for every breath we take. Your mercy has been so great to us. That you would love us, with such love.... despite our sins, our flaws, is a wonder, may this pour such thankfulness into our hearts that we can't help but bow before you, weep before, and willingly accept humiliation in the face of your goodness. Thank you, thank you that you bring us healing and your love knows no bounds. Amen.*

*Maranatha Mirror*

Message: Richard E Bieber 2021

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THE LAMB  
WHO WAS SLAIN  
HAS BEGUN HIS REIGN