



THE GOSPEL OF CHRIST BIBLE OUTREACH

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DAILY DEVOTION

THE JOURNEY OF FAITH: PART 7.

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Matthew 5:3

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, For theirs is the kingdom of heaven."

It's no surprise that Jesus begins a description of what Kingdom living looks like in the first beatitude. Beatitudes are the attitudes that describe the character of those who live and walk in the journey of faith.

I love how The Message paraphrases the first one in Matthew 5:3.MSG,

It says, "You're blessed when you're at the end of your rope. With less of you there is more of God and His rule."

As you read this, you may find yourself there - at the end of your rope. You may feel frozen in destructive hurts and habit patterns that are harmful to you and your relationships, and you don't know what to do. You may want to live the Jesus Way and experience His blessing, but you feel trapped and can't break free. Jesus offers hope when you're at the end of your rope!

The first step in restoration is to humbly admit your powerlessness to change yourself and control everything. Even the great Apostle Paul realized this in his own life when he disclosed the personal struggle in his soul. In Romans 7:15-17 (LB), he humbly admitted, "I don't understand myself at all, for I really want to do what is right, but I can't. I do what I don't want to - what I hate. I know perfectly well that what I am doing is wrong, and my bad conscience proves that I agree with these laws I am breaking. But I can't help myself because I'm no longer doing it. It is sin inside of me that is stronger than I am that makes me do these evil things."

Can you relate? If we're honest, we all can! The good news is that God offers grace to melt those barriers in our lives that have kept us frozen and prevent the flow of His presence and power. But how do we access that grace? His grace is made available through humility when we humbly admit our need for God and others.

The Bible promises us in James 4:6 (NKJV) that “God resists the proud but gives grace to the humble.” Grace is the power and desire to do God’s will. Grace is the power to change! You receive that grace when you humbly admit your need for it.

If you’re at the end of your rope, you’re in a good place for God to bless you. Humbly admit your need for God and make room for His grace to flow! Humility isn’t thinking less of yourself; it’s just thinking about yourself less. Jesus said, “...With less of you there is more of God and His rule.” Surrender your life now to His care and control.

Prayer: Spirit of humility possess me! Oh God, I need more of you in my life and help me to be lowly in the heart as I walk in the journey of faith in Jesus name.