Study Guide 4-11-21

The Call of the Kingdom

Week 1: Humility

The “Beatitudes” are all about being honest and sincere. These “attitudes” change our character (Beatitudes 1-4) and guide us in getting along with others (Beatitudes 5-8). Beatitudes are the stepping-stones to better thinking, better behaving, better healing, and better relationships. Best put, they are about how to live like Jesus wants you to live.

When Jesus began to explain what it means to be his follower He began with this verse. If we are going to accept the teachings of Jesus it will require two things: admitting what a sinful mess we are and depending on God’s grace. We have to see our poverty before God, our utter deficiency.

As Paul addresses our own personal righteousness, he says in Romans 3.10, “There is no one righteous, not even one.” Yet, our culture surrounds us with messages that tell us that we can do anything we put our mind to it and nothing is impossible with a lot of hard work. This beatitude stands as a direct contrast to such a mindset. No one can enter the kingdom of God without first humbling themselves before God.

1.How do you know if you are “poor in spirit?” Describe such a person.

2.Why is this character quality so important to God? Or why would Jesus talk about this first? How can a person cultivate a “poor in spirit” type of heart and life?

3. What is an area of your life that you struggle with being “poor in spirit?”

4.What is the significance of possessing the “kingdom of God” as a reward for being poor in spirit?

5.What can the group specifically do to help you in being a “poor in spirit” type of individual?