

## Broken to Be Whole

Matthew 5:1-3

Sunday, January 7, 2018



*Talking through the message during the week helps you turn what God is saying to you into action steps. These talking points, questions, and scriptures are designed to help you take the next step. If you're leading a group through this guide, don't feel like you have to answer every question. Pick out those questions that will stir up conversation and*

action among your group. ~ Pastor Matt

### **KEY THOUGHT**

"You're blessed when you're at the end of your rope. With less of you there is more of God and his rule" (Matthew 5:3 MSG). Only Jesus can give us life. It is those who realize they need Him, who reach with the desperation of a victim for a life preserver, that are truly blessed.

### **OPEN**

- Is it hard or easy for you to ask for help when you're lost? Why?
- What's one idea from the message that really stood out to you? Why did this idea grab your attention? (Read Matthew 5:3)

### **DISCUSSION**

- Before listening to the sermon, how would you have described someone who is blessed by God? What types of qualities would you have expected to find in them? What types of things would you have expected to see as a result of them being blessed by God? How does Jesus' list in the Beatitudes compare with what you would have said prior to hearing this sermon or reading this text?
- Read Colossians 3:1-3. What does it mean to have your life "hidden" with Christ? Why do you think Paul chose to describe the Christian life this way?
- Read Matthew 5:3. That's probably not what we would typically think is the beginning of the blessed life, but Jesus says it is. In what ways does this confirm the "hidden" nature of our lives in Christ?
- Being "poor in spirit" has a lot to do with realizing that we need help. What are sometimes you can think of when you needed help, and God came through?
- Even though you might be able to think of some times when God has helped you in the past, do you find it difficult or easy to ask Him for help regularly? Why or why not? What is one area in your life right now where you need God's help?
- What steps can you take to identify and tear down the facades you have consciously or subconsciously built to make it seem like you "have it all together"?
- What can you do this week to acknowledge your brokenness before God and brothers and sisters in Christ?

### **NEXT STEPS**

- Share some experience or insight that helped you realize your spiritual dependence on God.

- In your own life, how have you been blessed by acknowledging your spiritual poverty?
- Sometimes we remain aware of our failures and dependence on the Lord. In what areas do you tend to acknowledge your need for God?
- Pray for God to show you your brokenness. Ask God for the humility to acknowledge it and to confess it. Pray for the courage to accept your brokenness—and God's healing that comes with it.