

THE ONLY PASSING GRADE IS "F"

Matthew 5:1-3

Main Idea: An acute awareness of one's desperate moral and spiritual predicament is necessary for admission into God's kingdom.

Jewish Expectations of Messiah

The Roman problem

An imposing political and military leader

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

(3)

An astonishing statement

The meaning of "poor"

The meaning of "poor in spirit"

It is not an end in itself

An attitude that corresponds to the truth

How one becomes "poor in spirit"

Inheriting the kingdom

Jesus' solution to our spiritual impoverishment

Family Life Groups

The Only Passing Grade is “F”

Matthew 5:1-3

Main Idea: An acute awareness of one’s desperate moral and spiritual predicament is necessary for admission into God’s kingdom.

Matthew 5:3 “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.”

- 1) A person who is poor in spirit acknowledges that he is morally and spiritually bankrupt. He is acutely aware of his moral and spiritual predicament before a holy God—that he falls way short of his glory, that she hasn’t one ounce of moral or spiritual virtue in herself that would commend her to God and win his favor, and that there is nothing he can do that would make him worthy of God’s approval. How does one come to this realization?
- 2) Is God involved in the process of a person becoming poor in spirit? If so, how?
- 3) Does God desire and expect us to remain “poor in spirit” while we live our lives on this earth? Why or why not?
- 4) Since this attitude of being “poor in spirit” is necessary for admission into the kingdom, does this have any bearing on how you would present the gospel to an unbeliever? How does it inform the way you pray for unbelievers?