

LESSON 10: BROKENNESS

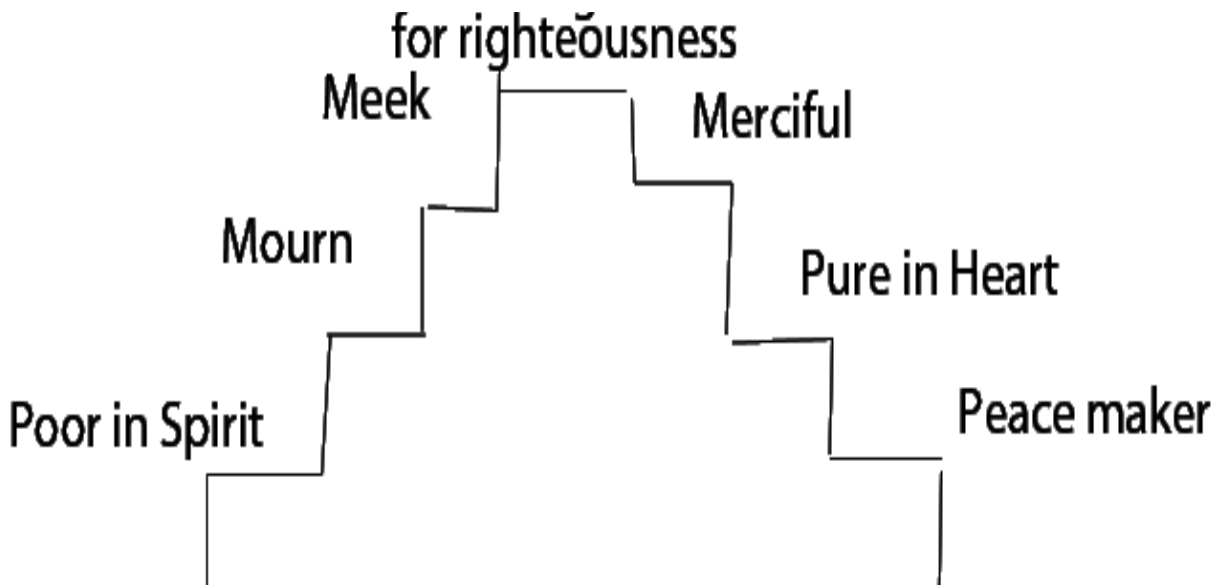
INTRODUCTION

At some point in your life, Christ will break you. There has been an argument in the *Bibliotheca Sacra*, a Dallas Theological Seminary journal, that the Sermon on the Mount is not for Christians because it is too difficult to live for even Christians. This is correct in that it is impossible to live out the Beatitudes. As Christians, we must come to the place where our Christian life is not difficult to live but impossible on our own. This is why Jesus gave us the Beatitudes.

THE BEATITUDES

Read Matthew 5:3-9

The Beatitudes can be seen as stair steps. First you climb up the stairs of being poor in spirit, mourning, and being meek. On the other end of the staircase is a stark contrast of mercy, pure, and peacemakers.



- ▶ What does verse 3, “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven” mean?
- ▶ What does verse 4, “Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted” mean?
- ▶ What does verse 5, “Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth” mean?
- ▶ What does verse 6, “Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied” mean?

- ▶ What does verse 7, “Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy” mean?
- ▶ What does verse 8, “Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God” mean?
- ▶ What does verse 9, “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God” mean?
- ▶ Why do we experience brokenness?

WALKING ON WATER

Read Matthew 14:22-32 and Mark 6:47-52

- ▶ What is Jesus’ response to Peter’s falling away?

Read John 15:5

- ▶ What does this verse say about success in our lives?

JESUS QUESTIONS THE DISCIPLES

Read Matthew 16:13-28

- ▶ How does Peter respond to Jesus’ question? Is this in a similar manner as the previous passage where Peter walks on water?
- ▶ If Peter recognized Jesus as the Messiah, then why does he rebuke Him?

MOUNT OF TRANSFIGURATION

Read Matthew 17:1-5

- ▶ Does Peter follow the same pattern in this passage?

THE CRUCIFIXION

Read Matthew 26:31-35 and Luke 22:31-34

- ▶ At this point has Peter reached a point of brokenness?

Read Matthew 26:50-54 and Luke 22:51

- ▶ Is Peter successful in these verses?

Read Matthew 26:57-59

- ▶ Is Peter successful in these verses?

Read Matthew 26:69-75 and Luke 22:61-62

- ▶ Is Peter successful in these verses?

AFTER THE RESURRECTION

Read John 21:15-23

- ▶ How does Peter respond to Jesus' questions this time?

PENTECOST

Read Acts 2:22-24

- ▶ How does Peter's brokenness previously mentioned change his reaction to hard times?

CONCLUSION

If you look back at the stair steps at the beginning of the lesson, you can see that Peter went through every step throughout his life. He realized when Jesus looked him in the eyes right after Peter denied Him that he was poor in spirit and could not do it on his own. He then mourns because he hurt Jesus. He shows that he has a teachable spirit when Jesus tells him that he will die for his beliefs. He hungers after the truth and is merciful, pure in heart, and a peacemaker throughout the rest of his life by preaching salvation to others and willingly accepting the imprisonment and death he faced for Christ.

We all must go through a similar situation before we can live out the Sermon on the Mount. Have you had this moment of brokenness yet? Are you depending on Christ for everything, or do you still think you can do it on your own? This is the first step to being broken. God will continue to pursue you and break you. Everyone's situation is different, but we must learn to depend on God for everything before He can work effectively through us.