

Evidence for Being Poor in Spirit
April 3, 2020

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

Revelation 3:17, *“You do not know that you are wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked.”*

Psalms 51:6, *“Behold, You desire truth in the innermost being, and in the hidden part You will make me know wisdom.”*

2 Samuel 7:18, *“David the king went in and sat before the Lord, and he said, “Who am I, O Lord God, and what is my house, that You have brought me this far?”*

Luke 5:8, *“Go away from me Lord, for I am a sinful man!”*

Romans 7:24, *“Wretched man that I am! Who will set me free from the body of this death?”*

Jeremiah 17:9, *“The heart is more deceitful than all else and is desperately sick; who can understand it?”*

2 Corinthians 13:5, *“Test yourselves to see if you are in the faith; examine yourselves! Or do you not recognize this about yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you—unless indeed you fail the test?”*

Lamentations 3:40, *“Let us examine and probe our ways, and let us return to the Lord.”*

Examine: to seek to discover the true nature and character of oneself by testing. to interrogate closely. to make a critical examination of something to determine genuineness.

1 Corinthians 11:27-32, “Whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner, shall be guilty of the body and the blood of the Lord. ²⁸ But a man must examine himself, and in so doing he is to eat of the bread and drink of the cup. ²⁹ For he who eats and drinks, eats and drinks judgment to himself if he does not judge the body rightly. ³⁰ For this reason many among you are weak and sick, and a number sleep. ³¹ But if we judged ourselves rightly, we would not be judged. ³² But when we are judged, we are disciplined by the Lord so that we will not be condemned along with the world.”

“What have I contributed to this conflict or argument? What part am I responsible for? How can I self-correct and own my part in this?”

“How do my actions appear to other people? How do people really experience me, through my responses? What are practical ways, I can improve how I choose to respond?”

“Lord, please help me not to react hastily or selfishly, or to do what my fleshly nature wants. Help me to calm down and humble myself. Help me to see this situation, and my part in it, as you see it and as others see it. Help me to be objective, fair, honest, unbiased, and rational, even when evaluating my own actions. Please open my eyes to see anything bad about myself that I’m currently blind to.”