MARINERS CHURCH

Radical Living: Be Poor in Spirit
January 11-12, 2020

One day as he saw the crowds gathering, Jesus went up on the mountainside and sat down. His disciples gathered around him, and he began to teach them. **"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."** *-Jesus, Matthew 5:1-3 (NLT)*

What is the kingdom of heaven?

"I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full." - John 10:10

What is spiritually poor?

To some who were confident of their own righteousness and looked down on everyone else, Jesus told this parable.
"Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood by himself and prayed: 'God, I thank you that I am not like other people—robbers, evildoers, adulterers—or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get.' But the tax collector stood at a distance. He would not even look up to heaven, but beat his breast and said, 'God, have mercy on me, a sinner.' I tell you that this man, rather than the other, went home justified before God." - Jesus, Luke 18:10-14a (NIV)

"For all those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted." -Jesus, Luke 9:14b

"Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God ahead of you." -Jesus, Matthew 21:31 (NIV)

It's not your LOCATION in your connection with God that matters.
It's your DIRECTION.

For this is what the high and exalted One says—He who lives forever, whose name is holy:
"I live in a high and holy place, but also with the one who is contrite and lowly in spirit, to revive the spirit of the lowly and to revive the heart of the contrite." Isaiah 57:15

For your LifeGroup and accountability partner...

What is "poor in spirit"?

Why is it so important in coming to God?

Is it hard being poor in spirit? Why or why not?

Read Luke 18:1-30. What insights about humility do you get regarding pleasing God, humility, and the kind of faith and heart we are to have?

If you'd like to talk to someone about beginning or renewing your relationship with God, stop by the Connection Center after any service.