



TRANSFORMED

DEVOTIONS CONNECTING TEENS TO CHRIST

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

Matthew 5:3

The poor in spirit

What's up? Life, right? There's school—both the classes and sports or theater or whatever. There's relationships and friendships. There's life back at home. And perhaps, you even have a job on top of it all.

Feeling kind of stretched? Sure there are fun times. But not always. Sometimes there's just too much. Trying to balance everything could lead to poor grades, poor performance on the field, poor relationships, or maybe just poor, because any money you do make at your job goes to the car or tucked away in the bank.

Put these altogether and you might end up feeling poor in another way, poor in spirit. Poor means you're missing something. Poor in spirit could mean you're feeling like you're running on empty, spiritually. How is that blessed?

Consider this. When you're short on cash and you need to fill up the car, would mom or dad still pitch in for a worthy cause? When you realize you're not doing so hot in class, isn't that when you bite the bullet, get over your pride, and get a tutor or some help? When your relationships are strained, whether it's between you and a friend, significant other, or even family, that's when a 'talk' is needed.

To be poor in spirit means you recognize you need spiritual help.

I mean, we all need help. You're just starting to realize that life is not all fun and games. Things are hard. And more often than not, you've messed up. You've done, thought, and said things that are wrong. There's a reason for that. We're sinners. Let's just get over the pride and admit it. We are poor. We need help.

We have help. We have Jesus. He has all the riches of heaven. And he left it all for a time to make you rich, to give heaven to you by paying for your sins and coming to life again. He gives you the riches of his love and forgiveness. In this way, no matter what, you are blessed.

Prayer: Dearest Jesus, I am poor. Yet you have made me rich by your overflowing grace. Lead me to repentance. Help me to remember I am rich in forgiveness. Then lead me to rejoice in all I have from you. Amen.