

Day 1 – Poor in Spirit: Dependence on God

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

Reflection: To be “poor in spirit” is to recognize that before God, we bring nothing to the table that can earn His favor. The Pharisees relied on their rule-keeping, the zealots on their force, but Jesus said the kingdom belongs to those who admit their need for a Savior. Dependence on God is not weakness—it’s the starting point of real spiritual strength.

Illustration – George Müller

George Müller, who cared for thousands of orphans in Bristol, England, was known for his deep dependence on God. He often said he was “a poor man who could do nothing without the Lord.” Even when resources were gone, he would pray instead of fundraise, and God always provided.

One poignant example of his dependence upon God was when the orphanage ran out of food and milk. He told all the children to sit at the empty table and thank God for their breakfast. Moments later, a knock was heard at the door. The local baker had a cart of bread and stated that he had accidentally baked too much and wanted to give the excess to the orphanage. Once the bread was disbursed, another knock was heard. The local milkman had a broken wheel on his cart and would not be able to make his delivery before the milk spoiled. He would rather the orphanage have the milk than for it to go to waste.

His life shows that being poor in spirit leads to trust in God’s provision.

Application: Pray today acknowledging your complete dependence on God. List one area of your life where you’ve been relying on your own strength, and surrender it to Him.