

## **“I NEED HELP”**

**Sermon Scripture: Matt. 5:1-12**

**Worship Scripture: Psalm 51:10-17**

Happiness is so elusive----We say-----If only I had---that car---or no financial stress---- somebody to love me----or-----and I could go on and on.....

If all the “if only’s came true----no guarantee of happiness.

Happiness is not a question of having or not having problems----everyone has problems-- --but not everyone is unhappy.

### **What is the secret----how do we find it?????**

Jesus in the Sermon on the Mount----Beatitudes gives the prescription for happiness or Blessedness----*μακαριος*----describes that Joy which has it’s secret within itself----joy that is independent of the chances and changes of life.

Beatitudes are not pious hopes of what shall be----they are congratulations on what is.--- saying O the joy of following Christ----the bliss of being a Christian. The Beatitudes are talking about the joy that comes from walking in the company and presence of Christ.

It is not our circumstances----but our attitude that brings joy----happiness. If you are not happy----don’t blame your circumstances----but your attitude.

“Blessed---happy---joyous---are the poor in Spirit for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven.”

POOR----two words in Greek for poor----one meaning “one who works for a living---- not rich---but not destitute.

Second word---which is used here----means absolute poverty----beaten to knees.

When word began it meant---poor----with no influence----no power----then moved to mean ---the oppressed----finally came to mean -----one who because they have no earthly resources whatever----put their whole trust in God.

Not physical poverty-----spiritual poverty.-----

So the first beatitude is talking about the person who has learned to depend on God---- who has realized their own need.

### **I. WHAT IS YOUR NEED??**

We all have need at some level of our lives----“our poverty pocket” If you say I don’t know my need----then that is you need! That’s the place where you need help. You and I must face up to our needs ---happiness blessedness----will only come when you and I surrender our arrogance and ask for help.

Pride keeps us from crying out-----

I will be blessed when I admit I am poor----destitute----swallow my pride and humbly ask for help. Blessings start when I dare to admit---I NEED HELP-----in our marriages-

---our relationships----our work. School----poor grades----won't admit to teacher you need help----Teacher ask "What's wrong"----nothing

Something Pharisee's just couldn't do----pride----what would people think----or "Who me" I don't have any needs----it stopped them----no blessing received.

It is hard to say-----"I need help" or "It's my fault----I was wrong. Mary and myself go through this drama when we need to day to the other "Your right" Yyyyyyyyyooooor right.

We are afraid to admit our needs because of pride---and we are afraid people might reject us..

Simple words---bring great healing.

I've got a problem---can you help me? I don't understand-----I'm at my wits end---where do I go from here??

Cherry Boone O'Neill-----Pat Boone' daughter Tells of her struggle against Anorexia Nervosa---self-starver disease---weight loss----symptoms of problem inside----Got down to 80 pounds----slow suicide trip----because she hated her self so much----felt God couldn't love me----finally came to point where she dared admit her lack----self-esteem---her need---that she needed help.

Changed from wanting to die----to wanting to live----she was able through help---to over come. Miracles begin to happen---when we say "I need help" ---instead of I give up---completely different.

The alternative is to play games---put up a front----pretend---hope no one will ever catch us with our mask off. Not going to get help by putting up false front---hoping it will go away---that's definition of hypocrite.

If you are too proud---too afraid---to admit ---you got a problem----or you are hurting----don't be surprised if nobody seems to care.

Alcoholics Anonymous----I am a Alcoholic Hey I got a problem----when we get to this point where we are ready to let go----and let God take over.

Blessed are you when you quit denying your need----become honest with yourself and with God and admit you can't do this alone. When you turn to God and His children and say----Yes, I need help.

I AM SORRY

The other part of this beatitude is being able to say "I AM SORRY". When we learn to make this confession our lives began to be blessed.

No longer a slave to perfectionism----it's all right to make a mistake----sins are forgivable---I am human. When we are able to say---Lord has forgiven me---I've forgiven myself---I hope you will too---Good things begin to happen

Great power in the words---I am Sorry---heals relationships---between us and our Lord. To say "I am Sorry" takes us on an integrity trip---instead of an ego trip. When we are open---honest---we gain our own self-respect-self-esteem.

Psalm 51:17---The sacrifice (God) you want is a broken spirit. A broken and repentant heart, O God, you will not despise.

We see forgiveness...in Thief on cross....prodigal son....David the adulterer.....Saul---murder of Christians....Mary Magdalene...Prostitute. They all reached a point where they cried out "O God be merciful to me a sinner" I need help.

Blessed are the poor in Spirit.....for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven.

If you have a need....a hurt....God has an answer-----the principle is to ask God for help---admit we cannot do it alone-----

We get in our rut-----I am OK ----I can hid it---need to get out of rut---even though you knew where it was leading you.

When we discover the secret of first beatitude----we can begin a lot of things-----it starts with-----GOD I WANT A NEW LIFE-----I WANT TO BE BORN AGAIN----GOD I TURN MY LIFE OVER TO YOU.

Then God can begin to bless us. Before Jesus can help us---must admit our need---must have an attitude of willingness to be helped.

What is your need??? Your hurt?? Your failure?? Admit it...say to God or whoever it needs to be said to-----I need help---I am Sorry.

Our Christian Faith is built on the fact that God allows us to begin again...we can be forgiven....there is hope!!!! There can be change...and this is where it starts.

New Living "God blesses those who realize their need for him, for the Kingdom of Heaven is given to them.

Message "You're blessed when you're at the end of your rope. With less of you there is more of God and his rule.

Vern "Blessed is the person who has realized their own utter helplessness, and has put their whole trust in God."