



## THE BIG IDEA

Emptiness makes space for us to be filled. Mourning makes space for us to be comforted.

## WHY DO WE NEED TO KNOW IT?

We want to be full of the wrong stuff. God wants to fill us with God's presence.

## WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO ABOUT IT?

Honestly and courageously enter in to our poverty. Empty ourselves of the "stuff" we use to fill our emptiness, and allow God to fill us with God's presence.

## START HERE

We want our entire church to be a part of the conversation. If you missed any of the messages from Sunday, you can catch up [here](#).

## CONVERSATION GUIDE

This week's message begins our series on the Beatitudes. Ryan gave an overview of why the Beatitudes are important to the Christian life.

Begin by reading the Beatitudes together from Matthew 5:1-11

### Consider this

This week, spend time considering the following quote. Ask yourself, and the group, where you can see your own experience in the words below.

Henry Nouwen once wrote,

***"We are so inclined to cover up our poverty and ignore it that we often miss the opportunity to discover God, who dwells in it. Let's dare to see our poverty as the land where our treasure is hidden."***

What different kinds of "poverty" can a human experience?

What "treasures" can possibly lie within poverty?

Can you think of some examples where Jesus makes a similar claim in the scriptures?

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**ADDITIONAL RESOURCES**

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- Book- *Seeking God's Face: Praying with the Bible through the year*- [BUY](#)
- More resources posted on the Forefront blog- [READ](#)

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**UPCOMING EVENTS**

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**February 6th - 7th**

- Forefront Marriage Retreat [Sign Up](#)

**January 13th**

- Newcomer's Dinner [Sign up](#)

**February 4th**

- Baptism Service [Sign Up](#)

## BENEDICTION

Holy God of Love,

There is light in our lives because of the abundance of your steadfast love. A love so vast, so deep, so real, that you became one of us. May we live within the power of this love. And may we share its light with a world where too many dwell in darkness.

Amen