

The Beatitudes

Matthew 5:3; 3 Nephi 12:3	To be poor in spirit means to be humble and “to recognize gratefully [our] dependence on the Lord—to understand that [we] have constant need for His support. Humility is an acknowledgment that [our] talents and abilities are gifts from God” (True to the Faith: A Gospel Reference [2004], 86).
Matthew 5:4	To mourn is to feel or express sorrow. A person may mourn over the difficulties and trials of mortality, including the death of loved ones. Likewise, a person may also mourn because of sorrow for sin.
Matthew 5:5	“To be meek, as defined in Webster’s dictionary, is ‘manifesting patience and longsuffering: enduring injury without resentment’ [Webster’s Third New International Dictionary (1976 ‘meek,’ 1403)]. Meekness is not weakness. It is a badge of Christian courage” (Robert D. Hales, “Christian Courage: The Price of Discipleship,” Ensign or Liahona, Nov. 2008, 73).
Matthew 5:6; 3 Nephi 12:6	To hunger and thirst after righteousness implies a great desire to know and do the will of God.
Matthew 5:7	“Mercy is the compassionate treatment of a person greater than what is deserved” (Gospel Topics, “Mercy,” lds.org/topics). We are able to receive Heavenly Father’s mercy because of the Atonement of Jesus Christ (see Alma 33:11).
Matthew 5:8	“The pure in heart are those who love the Lord, who seek to follow Him and keep His commandments, who are striving to live virtuous lives and endure faithfully to the end. The pure in heart are those who control their thoughts to keep themselves free from immoral fantasies and deeds” (Sheldon F. Child, “Words of Jesus: Chastity,” Ensign, Jan. 2003, 44).
Matthew 5:9	“[Peacemaking] is the gift to help people find common ground when others are seeing differences” (Henry B. Eyring, “Learning in the Priesthood,” Ensign or Liahona, May 2011, 63).
Matthew 5:10–12	To be “persecuted for righteousness’ sake” means to be willing to obey and defend Jesus Christ and His teachings, even when we may be mocked or mistreated for doing so.

