



Lesson 6 - Part 1 – Path to Spiritual Maturity (The Beatitudes)

Matthew 5:1-12



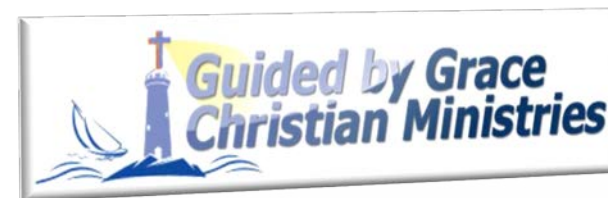
COMMENTARY

- The **Beatitudes** are **eight (8) blessings** recounted by Jesus in the Sermon on the Mount in the Gospel of Matthew.
 - “Blessing” means to be fortunate, well off, happy.
 - The number “8” in the Bible represents a new beginning, meaning a new order or creation, and man's true 'born again' event when he is resurrected from the dead into eternal life.



“Path to Spiritual Maturity”

Matthew 5:1-12



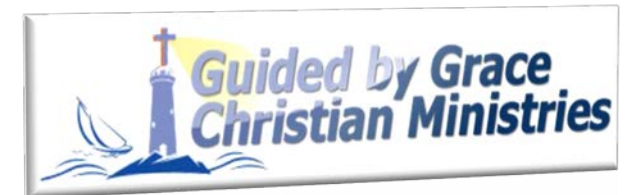
SCRIPTURE READING

5 And seeing the multitudes, He went up on a mountain, and when He was seated His disciples came to Him. ² Then He opened His mouth and taught them, saying: ³ “Blessed are the poor in spirit, For theirs is the kingdom of heaven. ⁴ Blessed are those who mourn, For they shall be comforted. ⁵ Blessed are the meek, For they shall inherit the earth. ⁶ Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, For they shall be filled. ⁷ Blessed are the merciful, For they shall obtain mercy. ⁸ Blessed are the pure in heart, For they shall see God. ⁹ Blessed are the peacemakers, For they shall be called sons of God. ¹⁰ Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, For theirs is the kingdom of heaven. ¹¹ “Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for My sake. ¹² Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.



“Path to Spiritual Maturity”

Matthew 5:1-12



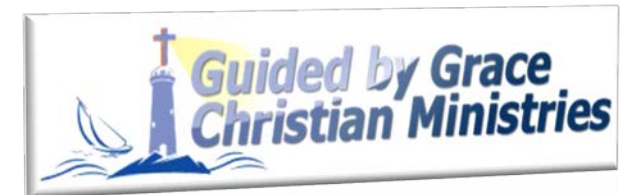
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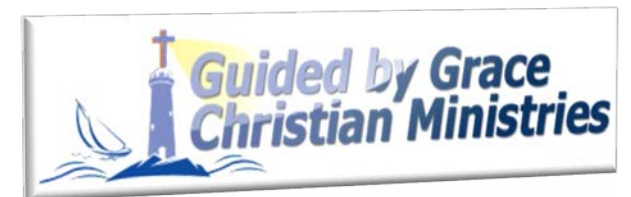
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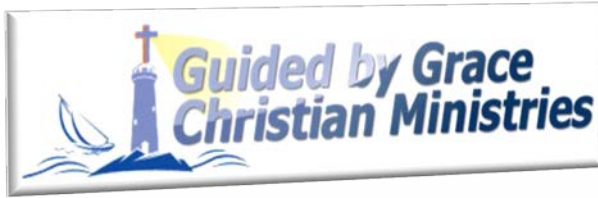
Matthew 5:1-12



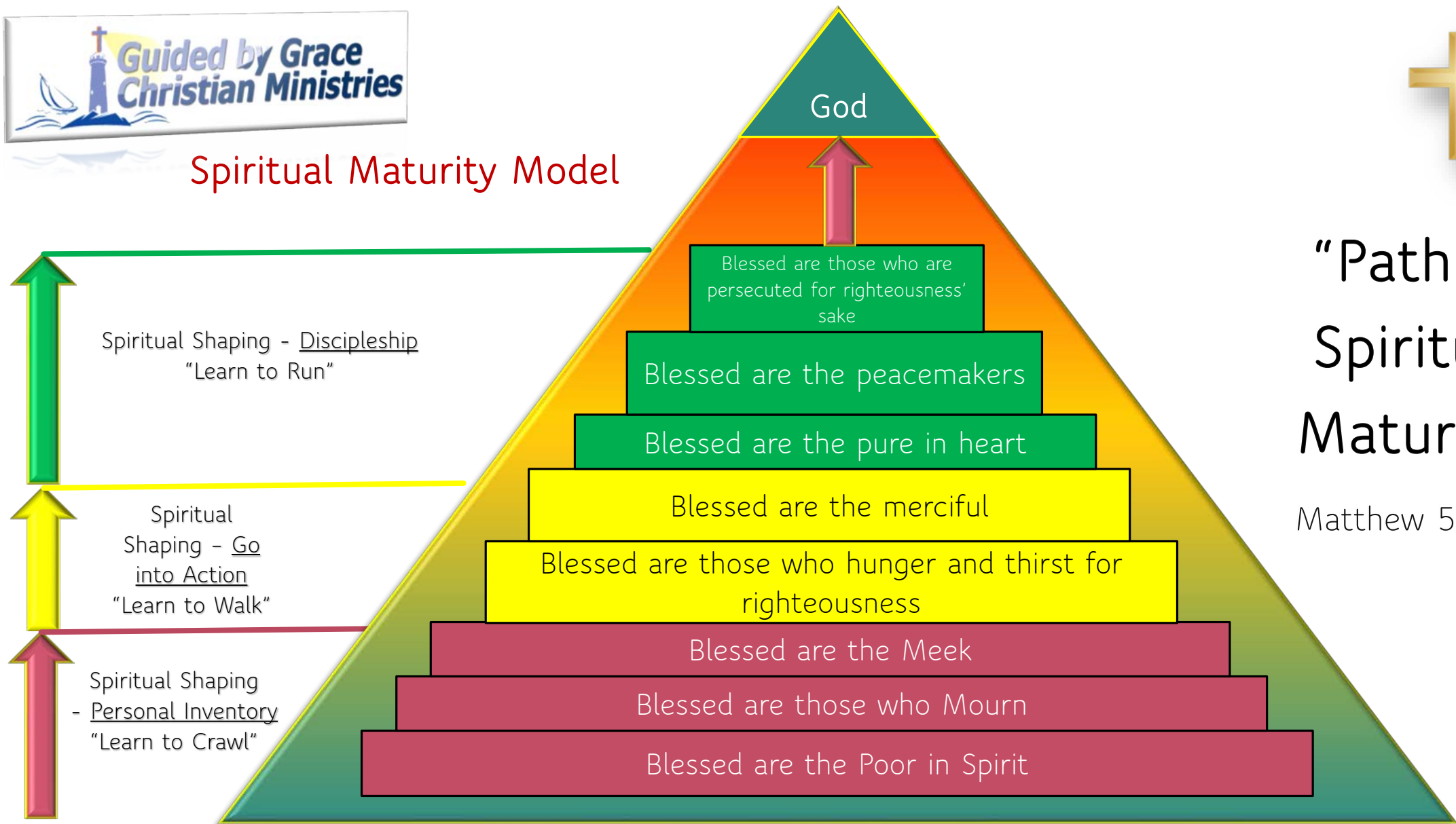
- Before You Can Walk, You Must First Learn how to Crawl.
- Before You Can Run, You Must First Learn how to Walk

- **Point 1:** You do not know how, nor do you have the power to achieve these blessings on by your own abilities.
- **Point 2:** Christ offers you the blessings, but He does not just turn it over to you to figure it out.
- **Point 3:** He will take your hand and guide you, by means of the Holy Spirit, give you the knowledge and power to accomplish each and every requirement.
- **Point 4:** If you humble yourself and with it, obtain a “teachable heart” the Holy Spirit will give you “much spiritual fruit” – the “Fruits of the Spirit”.





Spiritual Maturity Model

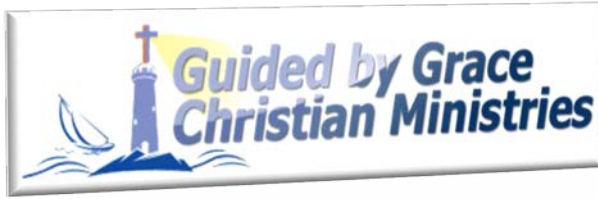


"Path to
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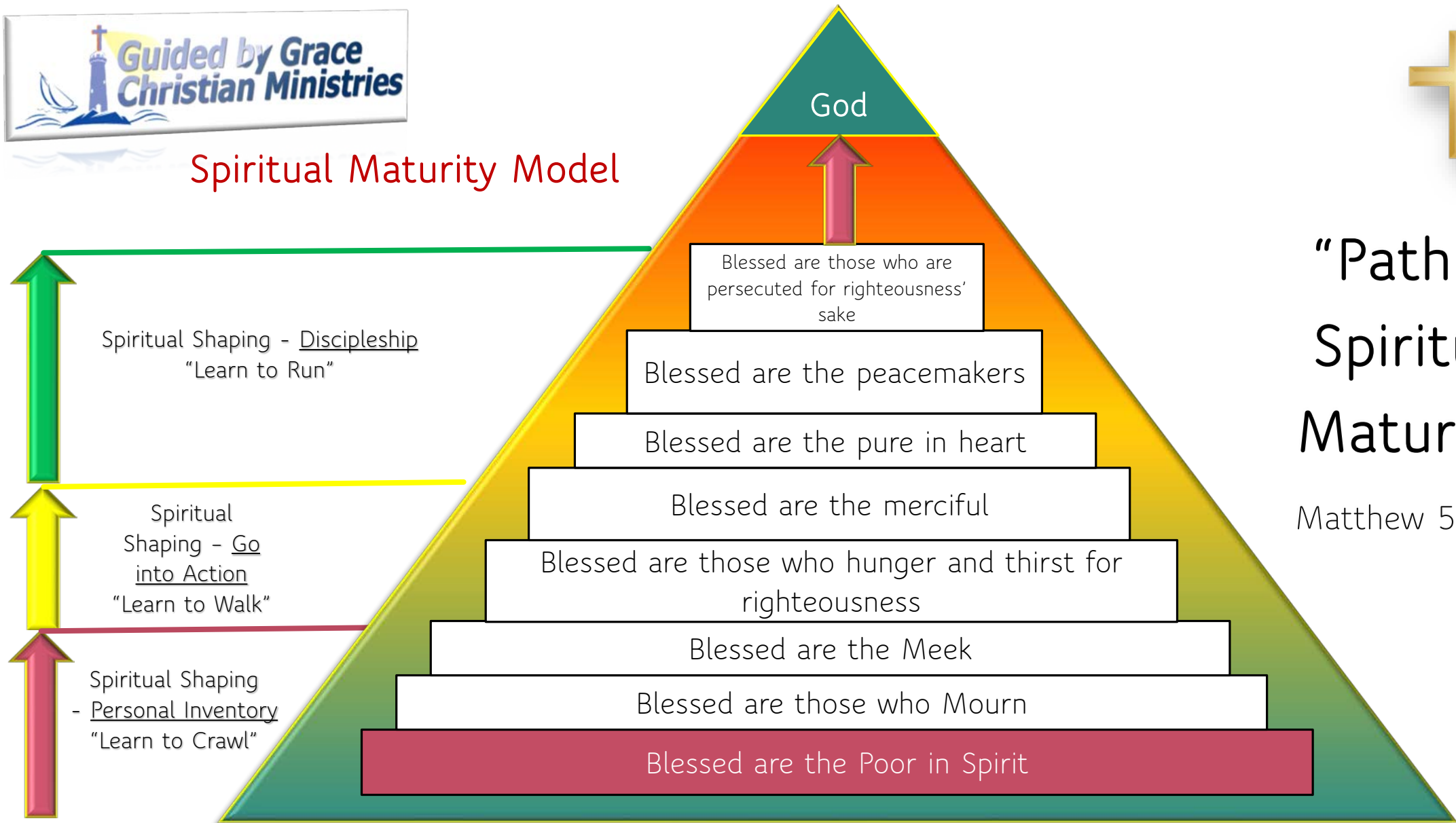
Matthew 5:1-12

What Does Christ Mean
When He States
“Blessed are the Poor?”





Spiritual Maturity Model



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Matthew 5:1-12

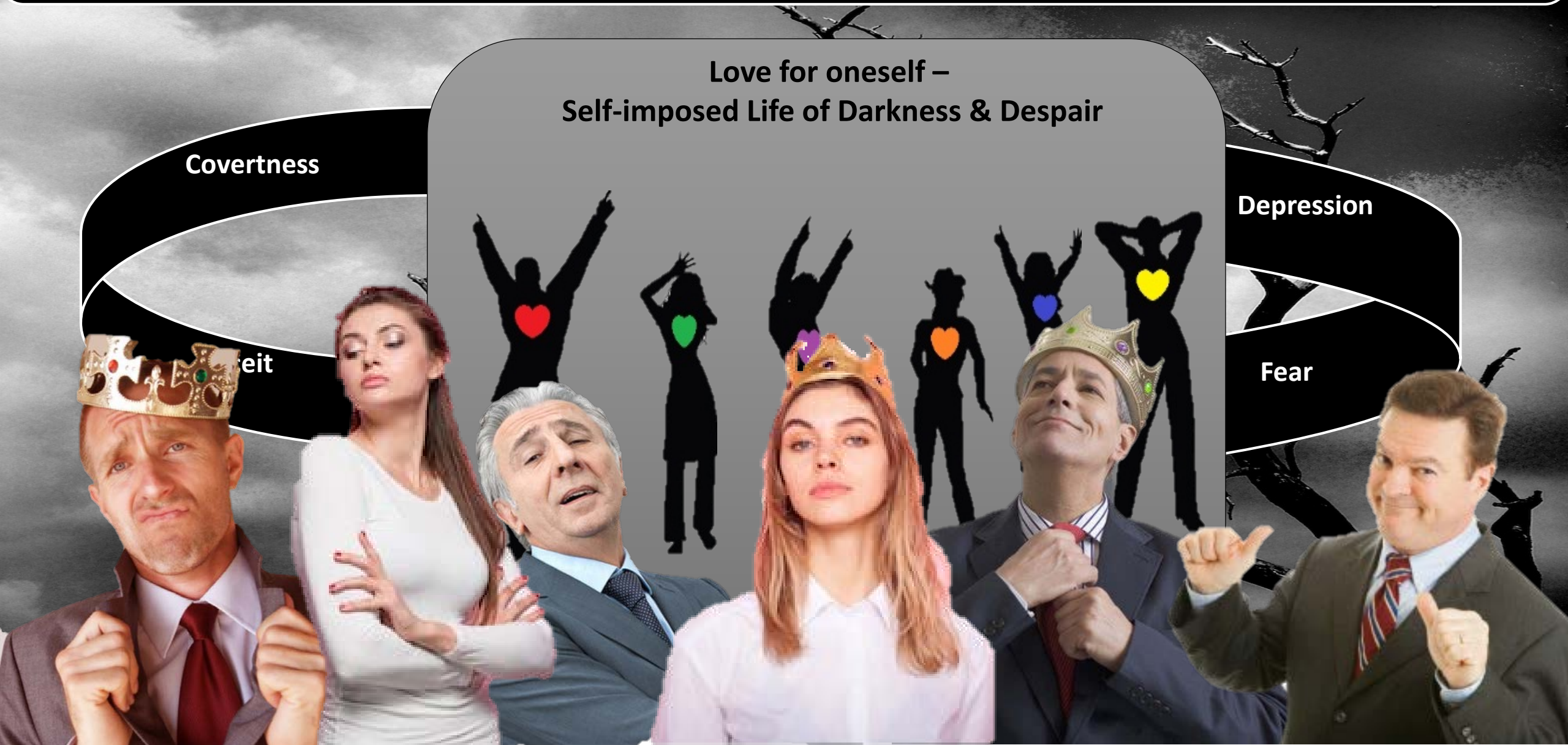
Blessed Are The Poor In Spirit, For theirs is the kingdom of heaven

(Matthew 5:1-12)



- **ANSWER:**
 - **Happy Will Those Be Who Recognize Their “Spiritual Poverty”.**
 - **Happy Will Those Be Who Are Humble and Give Up Their Prideful Nature:**
 - **Happy Will Those Be When They Know Who They Are in Relation to God.**
 - **Happy Will Those Be When They Realize They Need God For All Things.**
 - **Happy Will Those Be Who Abide In Christ For All Things.**
 - **Happy Will Those Be Who Have Faith (Trust) In Christ to be Their Lord.**

PRIDE – THE “WALL” THAT BLOCKS FAITH

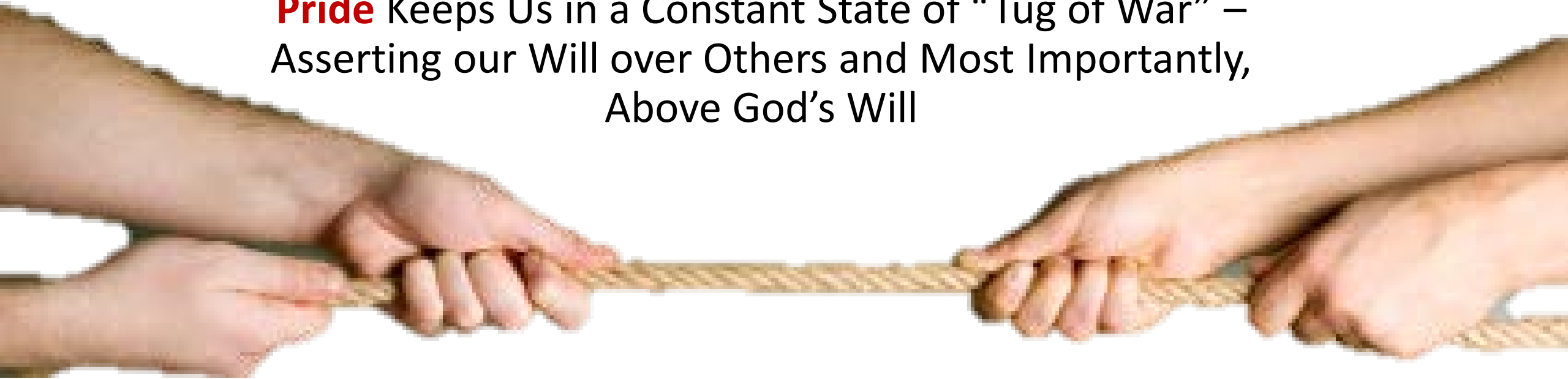


Blessed Are The Poor In Spirit

(Matthew 5:1-12)



Pride Keeps Us in a Constant State of “Tug of War” –
Asserting our Will over Others and Most Importantly,
Above God’s Will



Pride destroys our relationships and never allows us
to experience how God intended us to relate to each
other – At home, at work, in our community, and
even in our church.

Blessed Are The Poor In Spirit

(Matthew 5:1-12)



Pride Leads to Stubbornness





Pride Keeps Us Anxious

Pride Keeps Us Angry



Blessed Are The Poor In Spirit

(Matthew 5:1-12)



Pride leads to Loneliness



Blessed Are The Poor In Spirit

(Matthew 5:1-12)



Pride Keeps Us Depressed



Pride Keeps Us Afraid and Worried

Pride leads to Deception, 
Lies, Hypocrisy, & Mistrust



Pride leads to Jealousy, Hate, and Contempt For Others



Pride – Pride leads to Rejecting and Alienation of Others



Pride Leads To: Brings Us to “The End of Ourselves”



Pride – Focuses on the “Self”



❑ Pride Gives Root to More Meanings Than Any Other Words In Our Language

- | | |
|----------------------|-------------------|
| ✓ Selfishness | ✓ Self-Esteem |
| ✓ Self-pity | ✓ Self-Acting |
| ✓ Self-Righteousness | ✓ Self-Aware |
| ✓ Self-Sufficiency | ✓ Self-Indulgence |
| ✓ Self-Centeredness | ✓ Self-Knowing |
| ✓ Self-Absorbed | ✓ Self-Interest |
| ✓ Self-Assurance | ✓ Self-important |
| ✓ Self-Justified | ✓ Self-image |

- ❑ Absent from the above lists are any reference to **God's Presence, Power, Knowledge and Love**

Humility Vs. Pride



Humility (Christ)

- ☐ The Son can do nothing of Himself. *John 5:19*
- ☐ I can of My own self do nothing; My judgement is just, because I seek not Mine own will. *John 5:30*
- ☐ I receive not glory from men. *John 5:41*
- ☐ I come not to do Mine own will. *John 6:38*
- ☐ My teaching is not Mine. *John 7:16*
- ☐ I am not come of Myself. *John 7:28*
- ☐ I do nothing of Myself. *John 8:28*
- ☐ I have not come of Myself, but He sent Me. *John 8:42*
- ☐ I am not seeking glory for myself; *John 8:50*
- ☐ The words I say, I speak not from Myself. *John 14:10*

Pride (Man and the World)

- ☐ I don't need you or anyone. I can do it myself.
- ☐ You should be giving me the credit.
- ☐ I don't care about what you want.
- ☐ Give me enough time and I can figure out almost anything.
- ☐ Don't blame me. It's not my fault.
- ☐ I'm not going to bow down to anyone.
- ☐ I'm going to teach him a lesson or two.
- ☐ I'm don't take crap off anyone.
- ☐ I'm not going to him. He's going to have to come to me if he wants anything.
- ☐ I don't need anyone to speak for me.
- ☐ Nobody is going to disrespect me.

Blessed Are The Poor In Spirit

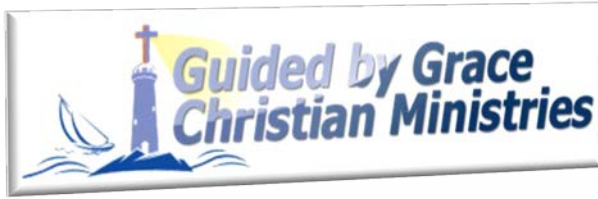
(Matthew 5:1-12)

TRUE HUMBLENESS:

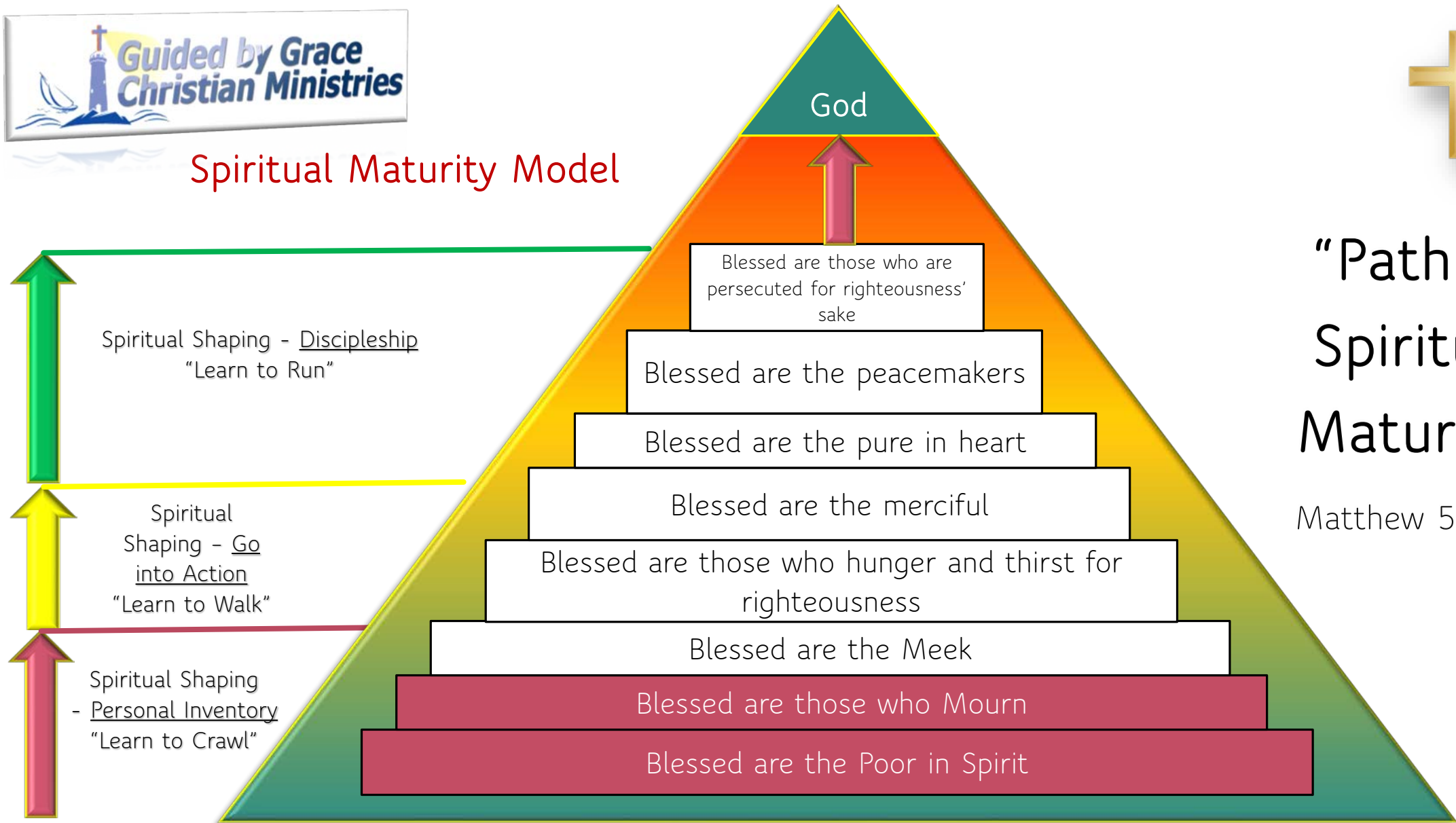
- Renders us teachable and leads to servitude...It's the "Softening" of Our Hearts To Receive Christ.
- Enables us to receive prosperity or adversity, health or sickness, ease or pain, life or death, with an equal mind and trusting (Faithful) and hopeful (Believing in God's Promises) Heart.
- Opens our hearts to receive God's Grace (Favor).
- **FOR IF WE RECOGNIZE OUR SPIRITUAL POVERTY**, the riches and resources of the Kingdom of Heaven are opened up to us to have and enjoy. These riches are not for the prideful, or on the bases of earthly wealth, race, or the powerful. It's made for the poor in spirit, those who are spiritually bankrupt, and recognizing their need for God.

What Does Christ Mean
When He States
"Blessed are those who
Mourn?"





Spiritual Maturity Model



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**Blessed Are Those Who
Mourn,** For They Shall
be Comforted

(Matthew 5:1-12)

- ANSWER: To Mourn is to have regret or to have sorrow.

What I am to regret or
have sorrow for?



Blessed Are Those Who Mourn, For They Shall be Comforted

(Matthew 5:1-12)

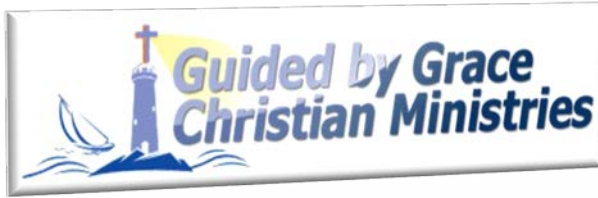
ANSWER: We regret and have sorrow or grieve for:

- Our sinful nature and inclination to disobey God.
- The sinful nature of others
- Unbelievers and their destiny,
- The wickedness of the world, its evil ways, deceptions, and lies.
- The those who do not know the truth and are heading to destruction and eternal death.

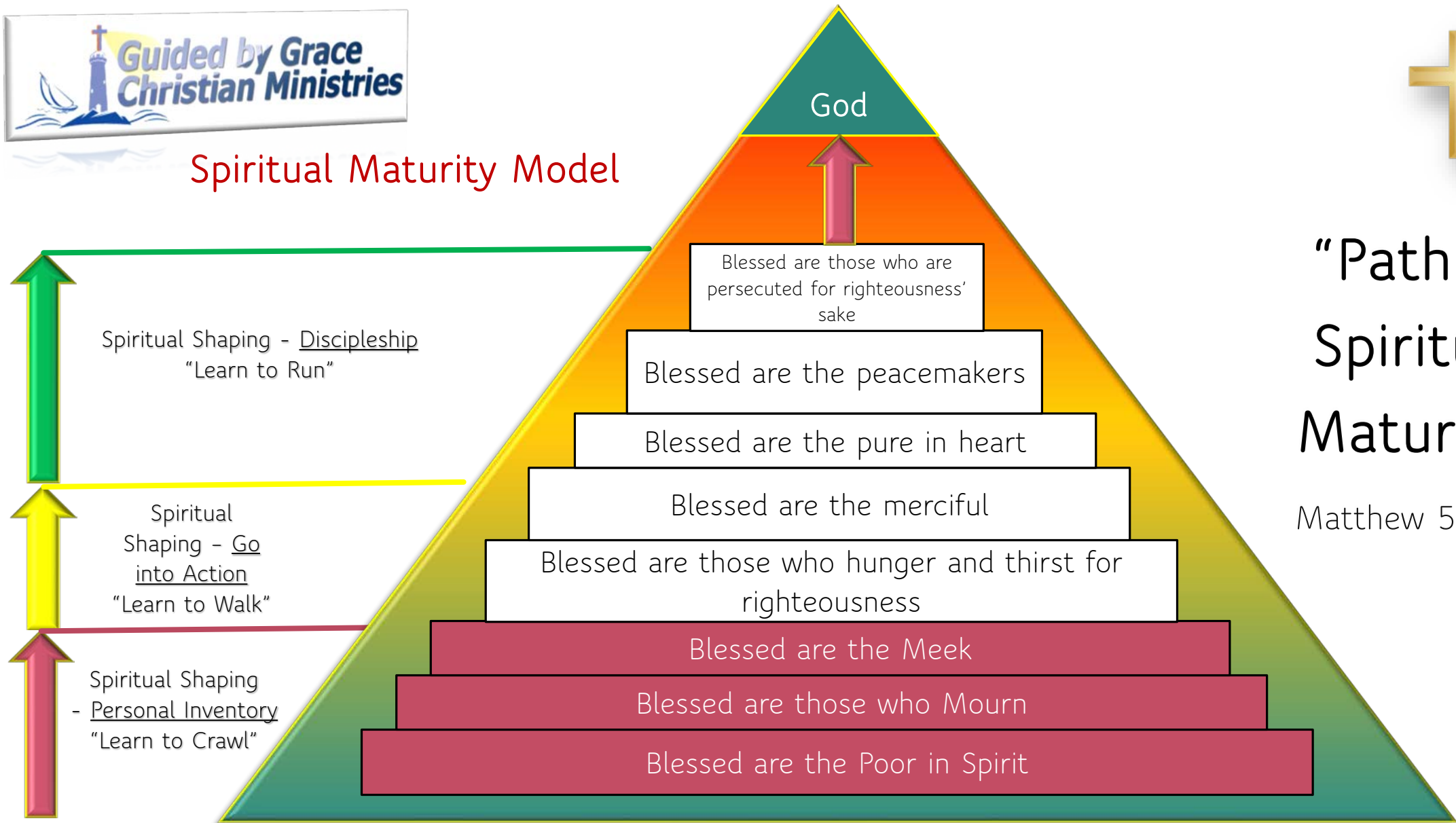
FOR IF YOU MOURN, You will be comforted in your time of need, and freed from all the troubles of this life. They shall be blessed with uninterrupted communion with the Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit, and with happy society of the angels and glorified saints.

What Does Christ Mean
When He States
"Blessed are the Meek?"





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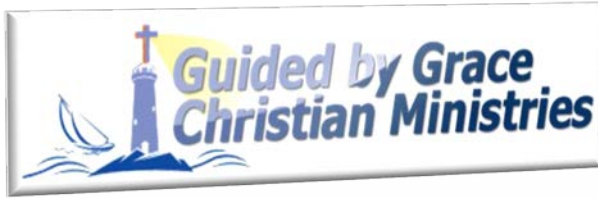
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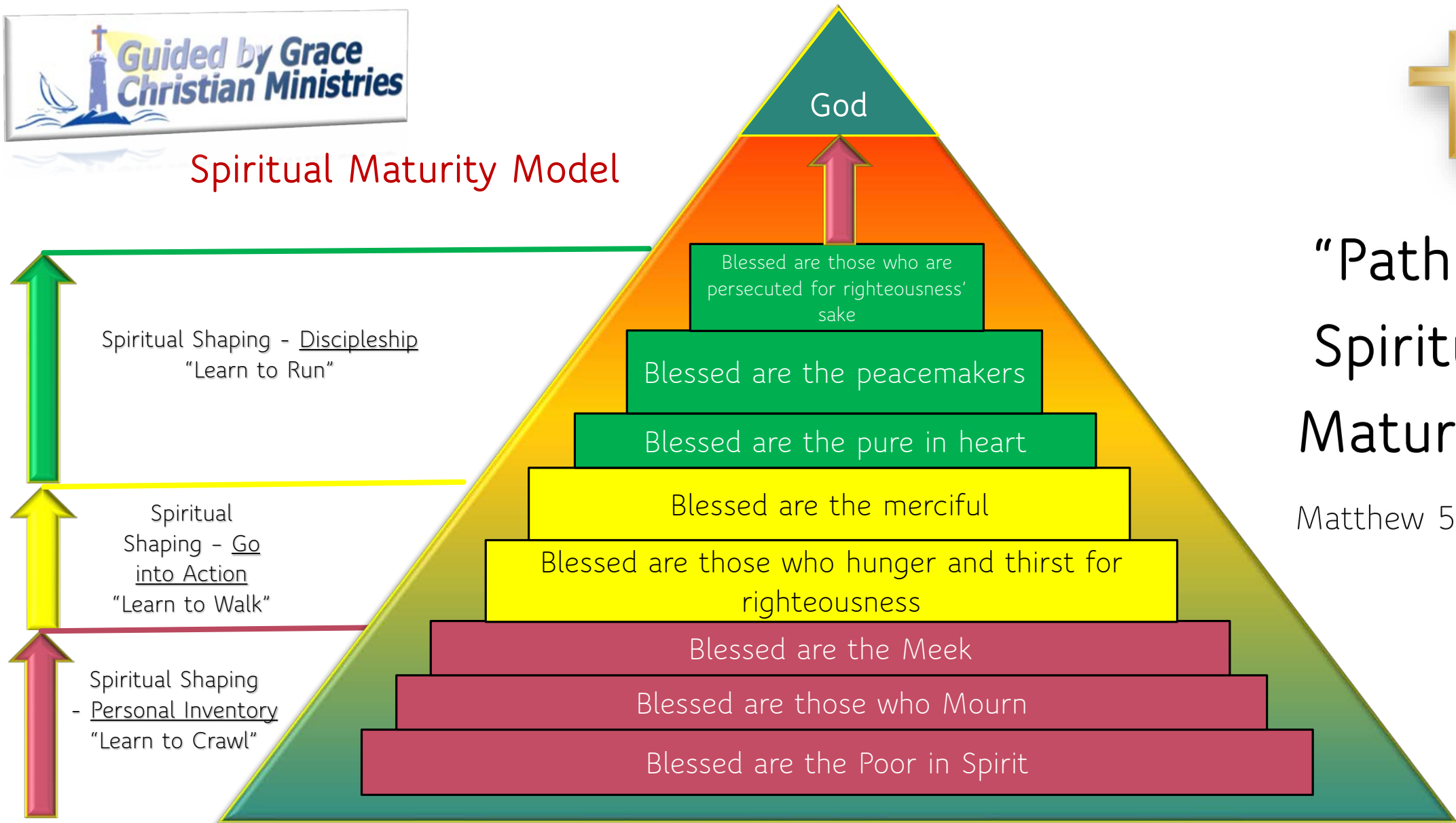
Blessed Are The Meek, For They Shall Inherit the Earth

(Matthew 5:1-12)

- ANSWER: To be “Meek” means to have a heart of servitude. It is to have self-control, joy, long-suffering disposition, tolerance, and a tranquil heart.
- It is putting ourselves last in the world’s eyes, but first in God’s eyes.
- FOR IF WE ARE MEEK, God watches over us while here on earth, ensuring we don’t end up on the short-end of the stick.
- Even when it looks like the meek will be pushed out of the world and end last, we will inherit the whole earth and be first.
- We are superior to none, but in God’s eyes we are superior to all!



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