

4. Read the following verses and note the similarities to the message of Jesus in **V3-5**:
- **Isaiah 57:15**
 - **Isaiah 61:1-3**
 - **James 2:5**
 - **Revelation 21:3-4**
5. a) What does it mean for someone to be “poor in spirit” (**Matthew 5:3**)? What is likely their view about themselves in terms of God and their standing before Him? *For insight, read **Isaiah 6:5**, **Isaiah 66:2**, and **Luke 5:8**.*
- b) How might the poor in spirit be suited for or ready to receive the kingdom of heaven?
6. a) Discuss what it means to mourn (**Matthew 5:4**) and what events or circumstances give rise to mourning. See, e.g., **Genesis 37:33-35**, **Nehemiah 1:3-7**, **Luke 19:41-44**.
- b) Review the following verses and comment on the comfort God provides.
- **Psalms 119:75-77**
 - **Lamentations 3:31-33**
 - **2 Corinthians 1:3-7**

c) When have you experienced deep personal grief and where did you look for/find comfort in your time of mourning?

7. a) In **Matthew 5:5**, as Jesus addresses the powerless and afflicted in the crowd, He echoes the words of King David who said, "the meek will inherit the land and enjoy peace and prosperity [shalom]." **Psalm 37:11**. Those considered meek are described in **Psalm 147:3, 6, 11**. What are some of their characteristics?

b) CHALLENGE: How does **Romans 8:14-17** link the inheritance of the meek as children of God to Jesus? Consider whether this is a spiritual inheritance or is there more?

8. **JESUS SAID: BE MEEK**

Jesus uplifted those who are meek, but do you value meekness? How would you describe someone who is the opposite of meek? As you examine your own life and attitudes, are you striving for power or prestige? Do you demand to have things your way, in your time? Pray that the Spirit would develop in you humility toward God and a willingness to surrender your rights in service of others.

MEMORY VERSE: "These are the ones I look on with favor: those who are humble and contrite in spirit, and who tremble at my word." **Isaiah 66:2b**

NAME

PRAYER REQUEST