

GROW GROUP QUESTIONS

Announcement: Please review the Grow Group Commitment document with your group in September to set the stage for your group this fall.

Ice Breaker: What's something you once did completely backwards or upside-down – maybe without realizing it – that still makes you laugh?"

Opening Questions

- **Read Matthew 5:3–6 aloud.**
 - What words or phrases stand out to you most?
 - Why do you think Jesus starts his description of kingdom life with these short statements?
- What do you notice about the kinds of people Jesus calls “blessed” in contrast with the people society usually honors?
- How does this “upside-down” way of viewing our life circumstances challenge our assumptions about success, happiness, or strength?

Going Deeper

- Which of these kingdom qualities do you most long to grow in right now?
- Why do you think Jesus says that being “poor in Spirit” is the starting point for being a part of God’s kingdom?
- How does acknowledging our spiritual poverty change the way we respond to criticism, conflict, or misunderstanding?
- Where do you feel the tension between the world’s kingdom and God’s kingdom most in your life right now?
- Where do you find it most challenging to live out the values of God’s upside-down kingdom in your everyday life?