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Loyalty of Uriah

2 Samuel 11



Uriah was a very brave soldier. Although most fighting in those days was hand-to-hand combat and weapons were very crude, Uriah was well trained and showed an intense loyalty to his commanding officer, to his country and to his king. When the army was sent to fight the army of Ammon, Uriah reluctantly left his beautiful wife, Bath-sheba and joined his unit. He was proud to be a part of Israel's army defending his people against this bitter enemy.

One day Uriah's commanding officer, Joab, sent him to inform the king about the progress of the war. King David listened intently to the news from the battlefield; then he dismissed Uriah.

"Go home to your wife," the king said. "Relax, have a good dinner. Enjoy yourself for the night."

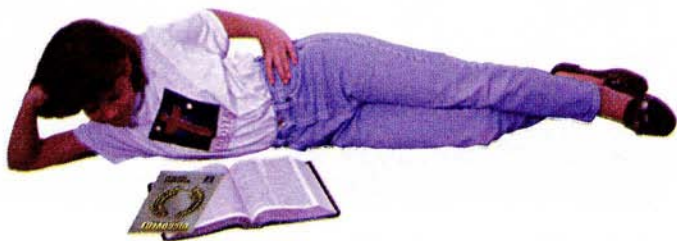
But Uriah could not bring himself to spend even one night comfortably at home while his army unit was still in the field. Instead, he slept with King David's servants at the door to the king's house. Uriah was so devoted to his task of helping defend his country that he would not allow himself to have even one night's pleasure.

The next day Uriah could not understand why he was called to meet again with King David. Perhaps he thought the king should understand his devotion. But the king asked him to explain.

"The ark of God, the armies of Israel and Judah, and General Joab are all camped in open fields," he explained. When King David heard the explanation, he ordered Uriah to dine with him, hoping to get him drunk so that he would forget his loyalty and go home for at least one night. But Uriah remained loyal. He did not know that the king had defiled his lovely wife and wanted to cover his own sin.

Then the next day, Uriah was sent back to the army camp with a message for the general. He was ready to fight. The general assigned him to a brave company of men that he had ordered to storm the wall of the Ammonite city. Ammonite soldiers shot arrows killing several men of Uriah's company. Uriah was among them. He had been loyal unto death. Uriah became a hero in the battle even though King David had taken advantage of him. Bath-sheba, Uriah's beautiful wife, was left to mourn the death of her husband.

God's people today must learn to be as loyal as Uriah was. It is easier for us because we have the promise that our Lord, Jesus, will not forsake us in the heat of battle as Uriah was forsaken by his king and his general.

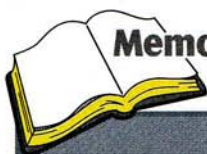


To earn your first sticker, READ pages 8 and 9
for your club leader.

Leader

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As you come to each Memory Verse(s), be sure you can say the verse(s) to your leader without prompting. Also, be able to explain what the verse(s) means when your leader asks you to.



Memorize this verse.

“For the word of God *is* quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and *is* a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.”

Hebrews 4:12

To earn your next sticker, RECITE Hebrews 4:12 for your club leader.

Leader

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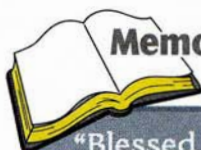
Unit 1

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The Beatitudes

Matthew 5:3-12

Blessed Are the Poor in Spirit



Memorize this verse.

"Blessed *are* the poor in spirit: for their's is the kingdom of heaven."

Matthew 5:3

"I am the vine, ye *are* the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing."

John 15:5

This is the first Beatitude. They all start with the words *blessed are*. They each then make a promise to the ones who do what they say.

We usually think that *blessed* means "happy." That is not really wrong. It is translated from a Greek word that means to "enlarge." When we obey Jesus' commands He gave us, we have an enlarged capacity for joy, peace and closeness to God. That is what real happiness is.

To be *poor in spirit* means "that we realize what great sinners we are, and that without God's grace and mercy, we have

no hope.” It means “we have realized our lost condition, caused by our sin, and have repented of that sin and trusted Jesus as our personal Savior.”

When we trust Jesus Christ as our personal Savior, we are born again into the family of God. As children of God, we become His heirs and inherit the kingdom of Heaven.

It is impossible to be saved, and it is impossible to properly serve God without being “poor in spirit.” That is, we must recognize we are unable to save ourselves or to serve the Lord without His power and help. If it weren’t for the power God gives us, we would not be able to do anything. On the other hand, Paul says, “I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me” (Phil. 4:13).

Always remember, Champion, all salvation, all forgiveness and all ability comes from God.

1. Fill in the blanks in the following sentences:
 - A. Each of the Beatitudes begins with the words
_____ .
 - B. We usually think of “blessed” as meaning
_____ .
 - C. “Blessed” is translated from a Greek word which means _____ .
2. Explain to your leader in your own words what “poor in spirit” means.

To earn your next sticker, READ and COMPLETE pages 11 and 12 and RECITE Matthew 5:3 and John 15:5 for your club leader.

Leader

Place
Sticker
Here