

## GOSPEL PEARLS

# The path to holiness

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Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him. And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying: "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied. Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted for

*righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you. (Matthew 5:1-12)*

Everyone is created by God for one sole purpose: happiness. The way to reach this goal is by way of holiness. Holiness is not meant only for extraordinary people, but is necessary for and attainable by even the most ordinary among us. The path to holiness presupposes spiritual poverty, that is, our willingness to freely submit our will to the Will of God, Who is our supreme good.