**Discussion Guide**

**Change of View: The Bottom Line**

**April 8, 2018**

Share a time in your life when you felt poor/needy. Remember, poverty isn’t only measured at the bank.

What has spiritual growth meant to you in the past? How do most people think spiritual growth occurs?

Read Romans 12:2

How does this verse say spiritual growth takes place?

What does it lead to?

Read Matthew 5:1-12

Given we are going to teach our way through the passage over the next few weeks, is there a verse you look forward to or one you don’t like?

This week’s verse was Matthew 5:3

Read some of the different ways translators have handled that verse

What is your emotional reaction to the idea of being poor or needy? Why?

How did your family of origin impact this reaction?

What are different kinds of poverty you’ve had that have made you realize your need for God?

What do you think it means to have the “Kingdom of God”?

How does the desire for wealth cloud our view?

Doug said that spiritual growth takes place when we allow God to change our view. How has God changed your views in the past?

What are some of your “I used to thinks…”

Why do you think Jesus started the beatitudes (and his first recorded teachings) with Matt. 5:3?

Read Luke 12:13-21

How does this famous teaching of Jesus dovetail Matt. 5:3?

How does this study shape your thinking and call you to action?

What is the greatest challenge involved in totally embracing this teaching of Jesus?