



September 27, 2020
3's and 4's

THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT | Matthew 5-7

Memory Verse: ²⁵“All this I have spoken while still with you. ²⁶ But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you. **JOHN 14:25-26**

Big Picture Question: What did Jesus teach when He was on earth?

Bottom Line: I trust and obey every word of Jesus.

Christ Connection: *Jesus taught people what it means to follow Him. He taught how people should live, how they should treat one another, and how to love God. People who trust in Jesus live to honor God and show what His kingdom is like.*

Leader Notes:

CONTEXT

One of Jesus' most well known teachings is the Sermon on the Mount. On that day, crowds of people had come to hear Jesus. Jesus went up on a mountain in Galilee, sat down, and began to teach.

Jesus' sermon is recorded across three chapters in the Gospel of Matthew, 5-7, and it tells how believers should live. While Matthew 5:1-2 specifies that Jesus taught His disciples, Matthew 7:28 reveals that the crowds listened to His sermon as well.

First, Jesus began with the Beatitudes. The Beatitudes describe God's great blessings for believers. God's kingdom belongs to the spiritually needy, God will comfort those who are sad, and God will give mercy to those who show mercy to others. Jesus gives believers reason to be glad when life on earth is hard because great rewards await in heaven.

Jesus also taught how believers should live in the world that does not honor Him. Jesus called believers “the salt of the earth” and “the light of the world” (Matt 5:13-14). He said the good works of His followers should cause others to give glory to God.

God's people had the law of Moses, but some of them- the Pharisees, in particular- were concerned mostly about the appearance of being righteous. They tried hard to look righteous on the outside, but it was all an act. Jesus warned against hypocrites, people who pretend to be something they're not. When a person knows and loves Jesus, he or she has a changed heart and wants to honor Jesus.

As you teach this to kids, emphasize that this moral teaching was not a list of requirements for being accepted by God. Rather, Jesus described what a person's life looks like when that person follows God and lives to honor Him. God's standards remind us that we rely on His grace through the gift of salvation in His Son.

TODAY'S TAKEAWAYS

- Great crowds of people followed Jesus wherever He went and were amazed by His teaching.
- The crowds were amazed because Jesus taught like no one ever before.
- He taught truth with authority because He is God.
- **Bottom Line:** I trust and obey every word of Jesus.

CHRIST CONNECTION

Jesus taught people what it means to follow Him. He taught how people should live, how they should treat one another, and how to love God. People who trust in Jesus live to honor God and show what His kingdom is like.



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Social: Providing Time for Fun Interaction (15 minutes)

Activities that encourage preschoolers to enter the classroom and begin engaging with peers and small group leaders by providing age appropriate and hands on fun while introducing new concepts they will hear in the day's Bible story.

Play it Out:

What You Need: rhythm instruments

What You Do:

- Pass out a rhythm instrument for each kid.
- Ask kids to leave the instrument on the floor till you start the music.
- As you play music in the background, give instructions for kids to shake their instruments like this... (You can use this poem to help. (Shake your instrument and shake them high. Shake your instrument and shake them low. Shake your instrument and shake them high. Shake those instruments around you go. One, Two, Three, Four)
- Then ask kids to help lead the group. When they shake their instrument others will follow what they do.
- Kids can keep instruments to use during worship in song or you can put them away.

What You Say: "We can all learn from one another, though God has especially gifted some people to teach. The best teacher ever was Jesus! When Jesus taught people, everyone was amazed. We will hear what Jesus taught people in our Bible story today!"

Worship

Gather children on a rug or in a specific area of the classroom to tell the story. Some kids (especially the younger ones) may wander. That's okay. They're still listening and learning!

Play the DVD of All Star Kids worship (choose 1 song for today)

What You Say: "Way to go! You are such amazing singers. Now let's sit down to learn from the Bible Story today."

Story Time: Communicating God's Truth in Engaging Ways

Engage kid's hearts through a dynamic and interactive Bible story and prayer experience in a Large Group setting.

Bible Story

What You Need: Bible

What You Do: Place a book mark in Matthew 5 in your Bible. Invite a preschooler to open it.

What You Say: "The Bible is God's Word, and God's Word is true. Today's Bible story comes from the Book of Matthew in the New Testament. Remind kids that all the stories in the Bible fit together to tell an even bigger story. The Bible tells us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus."

PLAY BIBLE STORY VIDEO

Talk about the Bible Story:

"Jesus went up a mountain to teach about God's kingdom. Jesus said, "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for God's kingdom belongs to them. Blessed are those who are sad because they will be comforted. Blessed are the humble, for the earth will be theirs. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for what God says is right, for they will be filled. Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. Blessed are the peacemakers for they will be called God's children. Blessed are you when people punish you for doing what is right, for God's kingdom belongs to you. You are the light of the world. Let you light shine so people will see you and praise God your Father."

Learn the Big Picture Question



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What You Say: “Our new big picture asks, What did Jesus teach when He was on earth? Jesus taught about God and His kingdom. You probably already knew the answer from our Bible story! Jesus taught people how to live, how to treat one another, and how to love God.

Practice the Memory Verse:

Open your Bible to John 14:26. Read the memory verse aloud several times.

What You Say: “This verse reminds us that God gives us help to follow His Word. His Holy Spirit helps us remember everything we learn from the Bible.”

Groups: Creating a Safe Place to Connect (25 minutes)

Create a safe place to connect through activities that are written to reach every learning style while reinforcing the Main Point that was introduced during the Bible Story and applying it to real life experiences. In addition, these activities provide preschoolers with an opportunity to build relationships with their Small Group Leaders.

1. Shine the Light

What You Need: flashlights (1 per kid)

What You Do:

- Give each kid a flashlight and dim the lights.
- Play “I Spy” by shining your flashlight on an object as you describe it.
- Guide kids to point their flashlight at the object when they guess it.
- Once everyone has his or her light shining on the correct object, allow a child to take a turn spying.
- Continue playing as time allows.
- Finish by “Spying” a Bible..

What You Say ” Jesus said that believers are a light in a dark world. He taught how people who believe in Him should live to show people what God and His kingdom are like. What did Jesus teach when He was on earth? Jesus taught about God and His kingdom. We read Jesus’ teachings in the Bible. The more we read the Bible, the brighter our lives will shine for God’s glory!”

2. Practice signing the Memory Verse

What You Need: Memory Verse Poster

What You Do:

- Show the poster to the kids.
- As you say the words point to them on the poster.
- Create simple hand motions to teach toddlers the memory verse. Sample hand motions include,
- ““All (*sign for all*) this I have spoken (*sign for spoken*) while still with you (*Sign for here*).²⁶ But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit (*Sign for Holy Spirit*), whom the Father(*sign for God*) will send in my name(*Sign for Jesus*), will teach(*sign for teach*) you all things and will remind (*Sign for think*) you of everything(*Sign ‘all I said’*) I have said to you. **JOHN 14:25-26**
- **What You Say** ” Remembering everything you learn can be hard, but God’s Word is too important to forget! So Jesus didn’t just teach us about God, He gave us the Holy Spirit to help us remember. Let’s pray and ask the Holy Spirit to teach and remind us of God’s Word!”

Pray and Dismiss:

What You Need: coloring page, crayons

What You Do:

- **Pray-** “ Father, thank You that Your kingdom is not like earthly kingdoms. Help us understand Your Word and obey Your commands. Give us wisdom and courage. Help us love You more each day. Amen.”



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- Send coloring page home with kids and tell family that we are learning John 14:26 as our memory verse during this series. They can practice at home.