



JULY 26, 2026

JESUS' SERMON ON THE MOUNT

MATTHEW 5-7; LUKE 6

CHRIST CONNECTION

Jesus taught how people in His kingdom have hearts that love God and love others. But because of sin, no one always does what is right and good. When we trust in Jesus, God forgives our sin and changes our hearts so we can live in ways that glorify Him.

BIG PICTURE QUESTION

What did Jesus teach when he was on earth? Jesus taught about God and His kingdom. He taught that all Scripture is about Him.

MEMORY VERSE

Matthew 5:16

PREPARE



Take time to reflect
on today's lesson.

LEADER BIBLE STUDY

The Sermon on the Mount is one of the most well-known and recognizable sermons in all of history. The truth it contains, however, is quite polarizing, calling people into a new way of life that runs counterintuitive to our sin nature.

When Jesus taught His followers the ways of His Father's kingdom, He shared truths meant to guide them in repentance, obedience, and love for God and one another. Much of what Jesus shared in the Sermon on the Mount reinforced the reality that God's ways are not like those of the world (Isaiah 55:8-9). Life in God's kingdom runs opposed to the world's wisdom, but the God who created us knows how we can flourish in the world He made—by seeking the Lord as our greatest treasure and submitting to His authority.

Jesus declared that those who seek God's kingdom first will experience His loving provision, both in this lifetime and for all eternity. The way of the kingdom is not by means of earthly power but by Christlikeness; it's not by ruling over others but by submitting to God's rule over our lives. Jesus declared that our faith is meant to impact every detail of our lives—from surrendering our will to His (Matthew 6:10), taking our worries to Him (Matthew 6:25), and building our lives on the foundations of His Word (Matthew 7:24-27).

In His Sermon on the Mount, Jesus spoke to people who knew what it was like to be hungry, dismissed, and oppressed. While the scribes and Pharisees hoped to achieve righteousness by rigorously obeying the law, Jesus explained that He came to earth to fulfill the law—to make the way for His followers to be counted as righteous by faith in Him alone. Through faith, we receive new hearts that help us obey our Father.

This week, lead the boys and girls in your class to see that the ways of the kingdom become our ways when we surrender our plans to God's will. Pray that they will desire to live as He lived through the transformative power of the Holy Spirit in their lives.

WELCOME



Connect with kids as they arrive.

OPENING ACTIVITIES

Greet each kid as they arrive. Use this time to build relationships and help new kids connect to your group. Before heading to large group, you can play a game, chat with kids, or practice the memory verse!

MEMORY VERSE

In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

Matthew 5:16, ESV

MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY

Each month, we'll have a new memory verse that goes with the lessons we're learning from the Bible. Choose one of the provided activities in your room's memory verse folder to review the verse with the kids.

It's Bible Bucks Day! Throughout the morning, kids will have the chance to recite any memorized verses to our Bible Bucks Leaders to earn Bible Bucks. If kids don't have any new verses memorized, encourage them to work on this month's verse to have it ready for the next Bible Bucks Day!



LARGE GROUP LESSON



Review what we're learning in large group.

JESUS' SERMON ON THE MOUNT

One day, as large crowds followed Jesus, He went up on a mountain and sat down. He began to teach, saying:

"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God."

Then Jesus spoke about how people in His kingdom can point others to God. He told the people to shine like light, so others would see their good works and give glory to God.

Jesus said: "I didn't come to get rid of the law. I came to fulfill it. Unless your righteousness is greater than the scribes and Pharisees, you will never get into the kingdom of heaven."

Then Jesus taught the people to do for others what they would want done to them. He said that we shouldn't just show love to those who love us. Instead, Jesus told the people to love their enemies and do good, expecting nothing in return. He said to be like God, who is gracious to sinners.

Jesus also taught the people how to pray, reminding them to pray for God's will to be done. Jesus said to pray for their daily needs and for forgiveness.

Then Jesus said, "Don't worry about your life, what you will eat or drink, or what you will wear. Look at the birds—they don't worry about who is going to feed them. And look at the flowers—they don't worry about their clothes. But your heavenly Father takes care of them. And you're worth much more than flowers and birds!"

Jesus told the people to be like a wise man who built his house on a rock. Even when the rain fell and the wind blew, the house remained standing. Those who hear Jesus' words and obey them will be like the wise man.

Jesus taught the people many more truths. When He finished teaching, the crowds were amazed, because He taught with authority.

CHRIST CONNECTION: Jesus taught how people in His kingdom have hearts that love God and love others. But because of sin, no one always does what is right and good. When we trust in Jesus, God forgives our sin and changes our hearts so we can live in ways that glorify Him.

ACTIVITIES



Do crafts and games with kids after large group.

ACTIVITY: CRAZY CUPS

Scatter the provided plastic cups in different places around the room. Place half of the cups upside down (like a mountain) and the other half right side up (like an ice cream cone).

Separate kids into two teams. Explain that one team's goal is to flip all the cups upside down (mountain), while the other team's goal is to flip the cups right side up (ice cream cone).

Place the teams on opposite sides of the room. When you say "go", kids will run around and try to flip the cups. Emphasize that kids cannot *move* the cups, only *flip* them.

When you say "stop", kids must return to their team's side. The team that has the most cups flipped their way wins!

CONNECT THE DOTS



Similar to how you flipped the cups the opposite way, Jesus commands His followers to act in the opposite way the world does. Jesus calls us to live as people in God's Kingdom, which often means living differently than the world.

BIBLE SKILLS: BOOKS OF THE BIBLE PUZZLE

Pass out the provided puzzles and encourage kids to become familiar with the books of the Bible and what order they're in.

Focus on helping younger kids get familiar with the book names and which ones are in the Old or New Testament.

Challenge older kids to put the books in order without help and/or start introducing the concept of the various genres the books are written in.

CLOSING ACTIVITIES



Continue to engage kids before parent pick-up.

BIBLE STORY REVIEW

Ask the following questions and lead your small group to discuss.

1. How can we show Jesus' love to our enemies?
2. How do we know God cares for us? How can we know He will provide?
3. What do you pray for or about? How can we know God hears our prayers?
4. What does it mean to build our house on the rock?
5. What are ways believers in Jesus can build their life on a firm foundation?

HAVE EXTRA TIME?

If you have extra time or your group needs to get out some energy, play one of the games/activities in your extra time bin in the cabinet or the "extra time" folder on the TV.

If there's a new game or activity you want to have available for your group in the future, let Taylor know!

BEFORE YOU GO...

Second service leaders, please clean up by doing the following:

1. Put all extra supplies and binders back in the curriculum bins.
2. Clean all trash off the tables.
3. Put all crayons, markers, etc. back in the appropriate containers and cubbies.
4. Erase the whiteboards and put markers/erasers back in the holder.
5. Turn off the TVs as you leave.

THANK YOU FOR SERVING WITH US!