

PRETEEN MINISTRY

4TH & 5TH GRADE



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.

LEADER DEVO

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.

ARRIVAL

When kids arrive, they can play in the game room, large group room, or the balcony area. They can go between the areas as they want until large group starts. Leaders should be spread out in these areas to watch kids. Use this time to interact with kids and build relationships with them. Ask them about their week, big events coming up, or follow up on a prayer request from the week before.

SCRIPTURE MEMORY

THIS MONTH'S 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



**BIBLE
BUCKS**

NEXT BIBLE BUCKS DAY

AUG 23

There are many techniques and tools to help kids (and you!) memorize Scripture.

THIS MONTH'S TOOL: BIT BY BIT

When learning longer verses or entire passages, don't try to memorize the entire thing at once! Take it bit by bit and break the verse/passage up into smaller chunks. Start with the first five words and focus only on those. Once you have those memorized, add another five or so words, and so on.

LESSON

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.

SMALL GROUPS

OUR GOAL

To create opportunities that invite preteens to discover for themselves what it means to own and live out their faith.

DISCUSSION / APPLICATION

1) Read *Proverbs 3:5-6*. Worry is a natural part of life—we all experience it! But it comes from not fully trusting God, which is a result of sin. How can we remind ourselves that we can trust God completely in times of worry or anxiety?

2) What does Jesus mean when He says “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.”?

Read Galatians 2:16; 3:23-24; Colossians 2:14. For a detailed answer to this question, scan the QR code:



3) Does this mean that we don’t have to follow God’s law anymore?

No! Read Romans 3:31.

4) How can we show Jesus’ love to our enemies?

PICK UP

After small group, kids can play in the game room, large group room, or the balcony area. They can go between the areas as they want until they are picked up. Leaders should be spread out in these areas to watch kids. Use this time to interact with kids and follow up on any questions or discussions from small group time.

As parents arrive upstairs, direct them to the game room, large group room, or balcony to pick their kids up. Make sure to match their security code with their kid's name tag and remove the name tag before they leave!

CLEAN UP

- Put away any supplies used during small group.
- Turn off TVs and lights in the small group rooms.
- Turn off both air hockey tables and put away extra pucks or paddles.
- Gather any balls or other items left out in the game room and put them away in the correct bins.
- Put away any games, books, or supplies in the balcony area.
- Check for any items left behind by kids and put them in the lost and found.

THANK YOU FOR SERVING!