

JESUS' SERMON ON THE MOUNT



Bible Reference: **Matthew 5-7, Luke 6**

Date: **9/13/26**

Grade: **PreK /Kindergarten**

2nd Service

Memory Verse:

"Shine your light before others so they see your good works and give glory to God." **Matthew 5:16**

Big Picture Question:

What did Jesus teach when He was on earth? Jesus taught about God and His kingdom.

Christ Connection

- Jesus taught how people live in God's kingdom. Jesus came to save His people from sin and change how they live. When people follow Jesus, He changes their hearts so they can live in a way that honors Him.

Schedule

- **Welcome/ Intro Activity.....5 minutes**
- **Kids Worship @ 11:00.....15-20 minutes**
- **Circle Time and Bible Story.....10 minutes**
- **Movement Activity.....10 minutes**
- **Craft.....5-7 minutes**
- **Music.....5 minutes**
- **Friends from Afar.....5-7 minutes**
- **Prayer and Bible Verse.....10 minutes**
- **Snack/ Discussion Time.....5-7 minutes**
- **Additional Activities.....As Needed**

Notes and Reminders

Happy First Sunday of the new Shepherding Year! As we establish the routines of this new year and the children adjust to their new class, both at church and school, would you pray that the people they meet and the places they go this year would help them to know God better? We are so thankful for your willingness to serve these children!



SHEPHERD BIBLE STUDY

The Sermon on the Mount is one of the most well-known 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.

JUNIOR SHEPHERD HIGHLIGHT

The Sermon on the Mount is one of Jesus's most famous teachings. But it wasn't easy to hear – it called people to live in a whole new way, totally different from our natural, selfish instincts.

Jesus taught His followers about God's kingdom: turn away from sin, obey God, and love Him and others. A big theme is that God's ways are not like the world's ways (Isaiah 55:8-9). The world says grab all the power you can. But God — who made us — knows the real way to a good life: making Him our number one treasure and trusting Him to lead.

Jesus said people who put God's kingdom first will be cared for by Him, now and forever. Here's the twist: in God's kingdom, you don't get ahead by having power over others — you get ahead by becoming like Christ and letting God be in charge. This kind of faith should show up in everything — wanting what God wants (Matthew 6:10), bringing Him your worries instead of stressing (Matthew 6:25), and building your life on His words like a solid foundation (Matthew 7:24-27).

Jesus was talking to people who knew hunger, rejection, and unfair treatment. The religious leaders thought they could become "good enough" for God by perfectly following rules. Jesus said something different: He came to complete the law Himself, so His followers could be made right with God by trusting in Him — not by being perfect. Trusting Jesus gives us new hearts that actually want to obey God.

Welcome to the start of a new school year and Shepherding year! As you help the children in your room get used to their new setting, focus on getting to know who they are. Be intentional about remembering their names.

Sometimes it can be helpful to learn something about them and pair that with their name to remember them better. (For Example: "Today I met Suzie whose favorite movie is *Moana*.") Then, the next time you see the child, you will have a better chance of remembering their name, and it will give you something to talk about ("Hi Suzie! I know last time I saw you, you told me your favorite movie is *Moana*! Which song from *Moana* is your favorite?")

OUTLINE



Welcome and Intro Activity

5 minutes

Welcome the children and mark them as present on the attendance sheet on the clipboard by the door.

- Before the session begins, write the letters **OBEY** on an index card. Pull the magnetic letters that spell the word. Lay the prepared card on the cookie sheet. Mix up the magnetic letters and stick them to the tray above the card. As children arrive, direct them to the cookie sheet with the magnetic letters and word card. Show them the word card and read it aloud. Help the children spell the word by matching the magnetic letters to what they see on the card.
- **SAY** I'm so glad we get to spend time together today learning about God. We spelled the word **OBEY** today with our magnetic letters. Do you know what it means to obey? [Allow responses.] To obey means to do what God wants us to do. In today's Bible story, Jesus taught how people can live so that God is honored and obeyed. What did Jesus teach when He was on earth? Jesus taught about God and His kingdom.

Circle Time and Bible Story

10 minutes

Thinking Activity

- Place items in a bag: a flashlight, toy birds and animals, artificial flowers, people figures, and plastic gemstones. Invite a child to play a guessing game with you. Open the bag just enough for the child to place his hand in it without seeing its contents. Guide the child to feel for an object, to guess what the object is, and then to pull the object out of the bag to see if his guess is correct. Play the game until all of the items have been guessed.
- **SAY** In today's Bible story, **JESUS TAUGHT ABOUT GOD'S KINGDOM** and how God's people should live. Jesus said don't collect treasures on earth because these things can be broken or taken away. Jesus taught that God takes care of the birds and animals, the plants and the flowers, and God takes care of His people. Jesus also told His followers they should be like lights in a dark world, pointing people to Jesus.

Bible Story

- Big crowds of people followed Jesus wherever He went. One day, Jesus went up on a mountain. He sat down and began to teach about God's kingdom. First, Jesus said that people who believe in Him will be blessed. Jesus said, "The gentle are blessed because the earth will be theirs. Those who hunger and thirst for what is right will be blessed because they will be filled. Those who are hurt for doing what is right are blessed because the kingdom of heaven belongs to them."



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- Then Jesus taught about how His followers should live. Jesus' followers should not live in the same way as people who do not follow Him. Instead, they should be a light in a dark world. Then Jesus talked about God's law. Jesus said, "Whoever obeys God's law and teaches others to obey will be great in the kingdom of heaven." "Love your enemies and pray for them," Jesus said. Then Jesus taught the people how to pray. Jesus also taught about forgiveness. He said, "Forgive others. If you forgive those who do the wrong thing to you, God will forgive you too." Jesus said, "Don't collect treasures on earth. These things can be destroyed or stolen." Jesus taught that God provides for His people. Jesus told the people that God takes care of the birds and the flowers, and people are worth more to God than plants and animals. Jesus taught the people many things. When He finished teaching, the people were amazed.

Christ Connection

- Jesus taught how people live in God's kingdom. Jesus came to save His people from sin and change how they live. When people follow Jesus, He changes their hearts so they can live in a way that honors Him.

Review Activity

- Lay out a blanket on the floor and place the Bible Story Picture on the floor 2-3 feet away. Invite the children to play a picnic game with you. Give a child a beanbag and invite him to toss it onto the picture while saying one thing he remembers from the Bible story. Give each child a chance to toss the beanbag and make a statement. Help children as needed with statements such as Jesus taught on a mountain, Jesus' followers should live differently from people who do not follow Jesus, and so forth.
- SAY In today's Bible story, Jesus taught that God blesses those who live in God's kingdom. Jesus also taught how His followers should live. Jesus came to save His people and change how they live. Sin is any action that disobeys God. When people follow Jesus, He changes their hearts so they can live in a way that honors Him.

Movement Activity

10 minutes

Encourage kids to help you think of ways they can show love to others. Examples may include helping a parent make a meal or clean the kitchen, singing a song to comfort a younger sibling, sharing a toy with a friend, drawing a picture for a grandparent, smiling or giving a high five to a friend, or obeying right away when a parent or teacher gives a direction. Write each idea down on a piece of paper. Mix the papers up and ask a child to choose one. Read the idea aloud. Play out the scenario as a group.

SAY You did a great job playing out how we can show love to others. We can show love to people in so many different ways. Jesus taught about God's kingdom and said we should even love our enemies, or people who are unkind to us, and pray for them. We can be like God by loving all people. Who can you show love to this week?





Craft

5-7 minutes

Find the construction paper booklets and the “Prayer Journal” labels on adhesive address labels in your bin. Encourage the kids to decorate the cover of their journal by using a label, stickers, washable markers, and crayons. Guide the kids to draw a picture on the first page of someone or something they can pray for. Pray together. Encourage the kids to continue to use their prayer journal at home.

SAY In today’s Bible story, we learned all kinds of things Jesus taught about God’s kingdom. One of those things was about prayer. Praying is talking to God. We can talk to God anytime and anywhere. He always listens to us. I hope you will use your prayer journal to remember to pray at home too!



Music

5 minutes

You will find music and other video resources on the USB which is already plugged into the TV. Feel free to play the videos in any order you like! You may distribute the Activity Page for the children to complete at this time, if they would prefer to sit and listen to the music.

Friends From Afar

5-7 minutes

You will find today’s activity for Friends from Afar in the Binder on the counter. The information for this month’s Global Partner family and an activity to learn about where they are serving are included.





Prayer and Bible Verse

10 minutes

Prayer (Use these words, or your own, to pray about today's Bible lesson. Take time to listen to prayer requests from the children and pray for them as well!)

- God, we want to live a life that honors You. Thank You for sending Your Son, Jesus, to live a perfect life, die on a cross, and rise again to rescue us from sin. Amen.

Bible Verse

- Read the memory verse aloud. Tell children that the memory verse comes from today's Bible story, Jesus' Sermon on the **Mount**. Ask the children to tell you what Jesus teaches His followers to do to show they love God. Shine the flashlight as you lead children to say the phrase again with you.
- **SAY** Our key passage phrase is from Jesus' Sermon on the **Mount**. It reminds us we need to show others through our words and our actions that we follow Jesus.

Snack and Discussion Time

5-7 minutes

Have children sanitize their hands before passing out snacks and cups of water. During this time, you can connect with children and discuss questions regarding the lesson.

- What did you like about the Bible story? (Answers will vary.)
- What were some things in the Bible story that made you happy or sad? (Answers will vary.)
- Where did Jesus go to teach the people? (up on a mountain)
- What did Jesus say we should do for our enemies, or people who are unkind to us? (love them and pray from them)
- How can we be light in a dark world? (obey God's commands, follow Jesus' teaching, be kind to one another, be patient, show love to others, let others go first)
- What did Jesus teach when He was on earth? Jesus taught about God and His kingdom.

SAY Jesus went up on a mountain to teach a big crowd of people. Jesus taught about God's Kingdom. He told His followers to be a light in the world, to love their enemies, and to forgive others. Jesus taught not to store up treasures on earth, but to trust God to take care of your needs, just as He cares for the birds and flowers. When Jesus finished teaching, the people were amazed at His words.





Additional Activities

As Needed

Build a Mountain

- Provide a variety of blocks for kids to build with, along with people figures. Demonstrate how to build a mountain or pyramid with the blocks. Small blocks can be used to build a small mountain, while larger blocks can be used to build a larger-scale mountain. Encourage kids to designate one of the people figures as Jesus and move Him up on the mountain. Arrange the other people figures at the base of the mountain like they are listening to Jesus teach.
- **SAY** You built a mountain like the one where Jesus taught about God's Kingdom. Jesus taught that people who believe in Him will be blessed. Jesus came to save people from sin and change how they live. When people follow Jesus, He changes their hearts so they can live in a way that honors Him.

Find Treasure

- Hide toy treasures like large plastic gems or plastic gold coins inside balls of play dough. Place the play dough balls on a table and encourage the children to search the play dough to find the treasure. Lead the kids to re-hide the items in the play dough and swap with a friend. Sanitize children's hands after the activity.
- **SAY** What did you find in the play dough? [Allow responses.] You found many treasures. Do you remember what Jesus taught about treasure? [Allow responses.] Jesus said, 'Don't collect treasures on earth. These things can be destroyed or stolen.' We should lay up treasure in heaven. This means we should care about the things God cares about like wisdom and truth.



NAME: _____



the **GOSPEL** PROJECT



Jesus' Sermon on the Mount

Matthew 5-7; Luke 6

STORY POINT:

Jesus taught about God's kingdom.

CHRIST CONNECTION:

Jesus taught how people live in God's kingdom. Jesus came to save His people from sin and change how they live. When people follow Jesus, He changes their hearts so they can live in a way that honors Him.

KEY PASSAGE:

Matthew 5:16

BIG PICTURE QUESTION:

What did Jesus teach when He was on earth? Jesus taught about God and His kingdom.

Scan the QR code for resources to use at home!



Find the Hidden Pictures

INSTRUCTIONS: Jesus taught people about God's kingdom. Use the key to find the objects and circle them.

