

Unit 12 at a Glance

Sermon on the Mount

Unit Overview

In this unit, the students will sit on a mountainside at the feet of Jesus while they listen to him reveal some of the most treasured truths in the Bible. Beginning with the blessings of the Beatitudes, Jesus opens the eyes and hearts of his disciples to the truth of God's love and justice. Surrounded by a crowd hungry to learn, Jesus unveils a new and amazing look at the old law. To conclude this timeless talk, Jesus ends with the call to seek first God's kingdom and righteousness. As always, Jesus reminds us that God is the ultimate caretaker and the supreme supplier of all our needs. The students will be left to consider how they too can seek God in their lives.

Unit Goals

- The students will learn that God cares deeply about their thoughts and attitudes.
- The students will see how Jesus amazed the people with God's words.
- The students will understand that pleasing God is more important than pleasing people.

Unit Contents

Lesson 1 Beatitudes

Scripture Memory Verse

Matthew 5:8

**"Blessed are the pure in heart,
for they will see God."**

The students meet Jesus on a mountainside to listen to some of his most famous words ever spoken. They will see that God cares most about their thoughts and attitudes. Ultimately, the students will see that they will be blessed—extremely happy—if they will follow God's words and hate sin.

Lesson 2 The Law: Old vs. New

Scripture Memory Verse

1 Peter 1:22

Love one another deeply, from the heart.

Jesus reveals a "new" look at the old law in profound and awesome ways. Jesus' wisdom and insight is a powerful testimony to God's power within him, leaving people amazed and inspired. The students will consider the difference between legalistic obedience and whole-hearted devotion to God, as they look at ways that they can love each other deeply from the heart.

Lesson 3 Seeking God

Scripture Memory Verse

Matthew 6:33

**"But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness,
and all these things will be given to you as well."**

Although the time on the mountain has come to an end, the truth and power of Jesus' words are just beginning. Pleasing God and putting him first are the call of the hour—then and now! The students will take very personal looks at Jesus' call to seek first God's kingdom and righteousness as they think about whom they are trying most to please.



3rd and 4th Grades

Dear Parent,

In this unit, the students will sit on a mountainside at the feet of Jesus while they listen to him reveal some of the most treasured truths in the Bible. Beginning with the blessings of the Beatitudes, Jesus opens the eyes and hearts of his disciples to the truth of God's love and justice. Surrounded by a crowd hungry to learn, Jesus unveils a new and amazing look at the old law. To conclude this timeless talk, Jesus ends with the call to seek first God's kingdom and righteousness. As always, Jesus reminds us that God is the ultimate caretaker and the supreme supplier of all our needs. The students will be left to consider how they too can seek God in their lives.

On the reverse side of this page, you will find an outline and a description of the lessons that comprise this unit. Included with each lesson is a Scripture Memory Verse for you to review with your child at home.

Your active involvement outside the classroom is essential and will truly make the Kingdom Kids Curriculum a great success for your child. Here are some suggested ways you can reinforce these lessons at home:

- Celebrate "Be Attitude" week in your home. Choose one beatitude from Matthew 5:1-12 to focus on how "to be" each day. Spend meal and travel times talking about ways that you are happier for pleasing God in each of the different areas. Discuss reasons why not pleasing God can leave us feeling unhappy. Talk about disciples you know or have heard about that have been persecuted for their faith and pray for your family to have great faith.
- Have a family devotional entitled "To Be or Not to Be Attitude." Role play different situations in which members of the family are being poor in spirit, merciful, peacemakers, etc., and then ways in which they are not. Ask them which feels better: to do what pleases God or not. Decide as a family on one specific attitude that your family will grow in together.
- Ask your child(ren) what they see as the most important thing in your life. (Be prepared for an honest answer!) Talk together and decide what your family's top five priorities are. Decide if these priorities put God and his kingdom first. If not, make a decision together how to adjust your priorities to please God. Pray together about being a family that seeks God first.
- Talk with your child about how to have great quiet times. Help your child have a weekly plan to read and pray. Discuss ways to make the quiet times special, including: finding a special, quiet place to meet with God; having a special journal to record thoughts and prayers; playing devotional music to help move the heart, etc. Have quiet times with your child and share about some special ways that you get close to God.

We look forward to being partners with you to help your child grow to know and love God more.

Thank you,

Your child's teachers