LEADER'S GUIDE

4th-

5th

LIFE OF JESUS

The Most Famous Sermon of Jesus

PursueGODkids.org

Q1

Lesson Overview

In today's lesson, we're going to learn about the most famous sermon Jesus preached. It's known as the Sermon on the Mount. Jesus sat on a mountainside with his disciples and a crowd of people gathered to hear what Jesus had to say. He started by talking about the kinds of people God blesses. Now, to bless means how God loves, protects and provides for people. I'm sure the crowd was excited to hear who the lucky people were! Jesus started by talking about the poor, hungry and people who were sad. I bet the crowd was looking around thinking, "Why are these kinds of people getting God's blessings?" Well, that was part of Jesus' point. God wants to bless everyone, even those that seem unimportant. And, the other lesson Jesus taught is that people can still be happy, even when they're sad. The reason- because God is on their side and he will help them to get through it. This is also true for us. We can experience God's blessings, too. We just need to look to him for our protection and provision and he'll take care of the rest.

Big Idea

Whoever God blesses is really, truly happy.

Key Question

What does true happiness look like?

Memory Verse

Matthew 5:3 "God blesses those who are poor and realize their need for him, for the Kingdom of Heaven is theirs."

Classroom Agenda

- 1. (5 min) Let kids start working on Activity Page #1.
- 2. (5 min) WARM UP: Who are the people in your life who care about you? How do you know they care? (Tip: Parents, teachers, friends and siblings care about us and they show it by their kindness and helpfulness. God cares about us, too.)
- 3. (5 min) **PREVIEW: Write out the Big Idea, Memory Verse, and Key Question on a whiteboard.** Have the kids copy it down on Activity Page #1 (if applicable).
- 4. (20 min) LARGE GROUP: Gather for songs and videos with other kids. Then return to class to finish this guide.
- 5. (2 min) RECAP: Read the Lesson Overview (see above).
- 6. (3 min) KQ: Answer the Key Question. (Answer: Joyful and confident, no matter what, because you know God is in control. The ability to be happy isn't based on your circumstances. True happiness is knowing that God loves you and that he'll help you get through anything, even the really hard stuff. So, when you're faced with a hard situation, remember who God is and that he can handle anything. Be confident that he will help you out.)
 - **Bonus Questions:** What does true happiness look like? How does God help us when we're sad? **4-5th** Share a time God helped you when you were going through a hard time.
- 7. (5 min) EXPLORE: Read <u>Isaiah 41:10</u>. Why don't we have to be afraid or discouraged? How does God help us? (Answer: The God of the whole universe is on our side. He has the power to save us and to help us no matter how hard the situation. God is the strongest and smartest so no-one can ever defeat him. So, when we're going through hard times, pray and ask him for help and watch how he shows up to help you because he will!)
- 8. (10 min) PLAY: Choose a group activity from Activity Page #2.
- 9. (5 min) CLOSE: Share prayer requests and pray as a class. Encourage kids to use the Family Guide at home with their parents and remind them to go online to pursueGOD.org/kids to find this week's lesson video.

Teacher instructions: Choose an activity for your classroom.

OPTION 1: HIT THE TARGET LESSON REVIEW

Instructions:

- Before class, tape two lines side by side. Place the Beehive targets (page 5) at varying distances from the lines (least points closest, most points farthest)
- Divide the class into two teams. Have them line up behind the lines. Give each team a bean bag. Ask a question from below. First team to raise their hand gets a chance to answer. If correct, the first kid in line gets to throw the beanbag to hit one of the targets. Whichever target they hit (or close to) award them those points. Continue playing until all the questions have been answered. Team with the most points, wins.

Questions:

- 1. Where was Jesus in the story? (mountainside)
- 2. Who was there to listen? (crowd, disciples)
- From what book is our memory verse found? (Matthew)
- 4. Who died on the cross for us? (Jesus)
- 5. What does blessed mean? (loved, protected)
- 6. What book is full of God's truth? (Bible)
- 7. T or F: We can always be happy with God. (T)
- 8. Is our story from the OT or NT? (NT)
- 9. What is the Big Idea today?(see board)
- 10. T or F: God wants to bless everyone. (T)

Supplies needed: Tape, Bean bags, Beehive targets (pg. 5, 1 hive for each point value, pre cut, 1 set per class)

OPTION 2: BEATITUDES BEEHIVE CRAFT

Instructions:

- Give each kid a Beehive template (page 6).
- Write the beatitudes on the whiteboard. Have the kids write each one on each layer of the hive. Have them color and decorate.
 - Poor, Mourn, Humble, Want Justice, Merciful, Pure, Peace, Persecuted
- As they work, read the story of Jesus and the Sermon on the Mount from Matthew 5:1-11. Remind the kids that God wants to bless everyone, no matter who they are. And, we can always be happy because God is on our side.

Supplies needed: Beehive template (pg. 6, pre cut, 1 per kid), Crayons, Markers/Pens

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Jesus started his Sermon on the Mount by describing the kinds of people God blesses. And he wasn't talking about sneezers.

Key Points:

- God loves to bless people who don't seem ______ to the world.
 Matthew 5:3-9
- Whoever God blesses is really, truly ______.
- We can even be happy when people are ______ for loving Jesus. Matthew 5:10-12

Memory Verse:

Matthew 5:3 God blesses those who are poor and realize their need for him, for the Kingdom of Heaven is theirs.

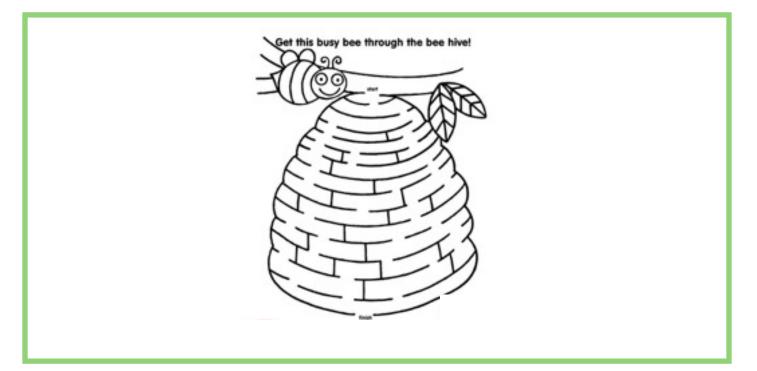
Talk About It

- 1. What's your favorite part of the video? What's one thing you learned from it?
- 2. Who are the people in your life who care about you? How do you know they care?
- 3. Who was teaching on the mountainside?
- 4. Who did Jesus say God likes to bless?
- Read Isaiah 41:10. Why don't we have to be afraid or discouraged? How does God help us?
- 6. How will you apply this lesson to your life this week?

Instructions: Solve the puzzles.

"Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me." Matthew 5:11 (NIV)													15.	
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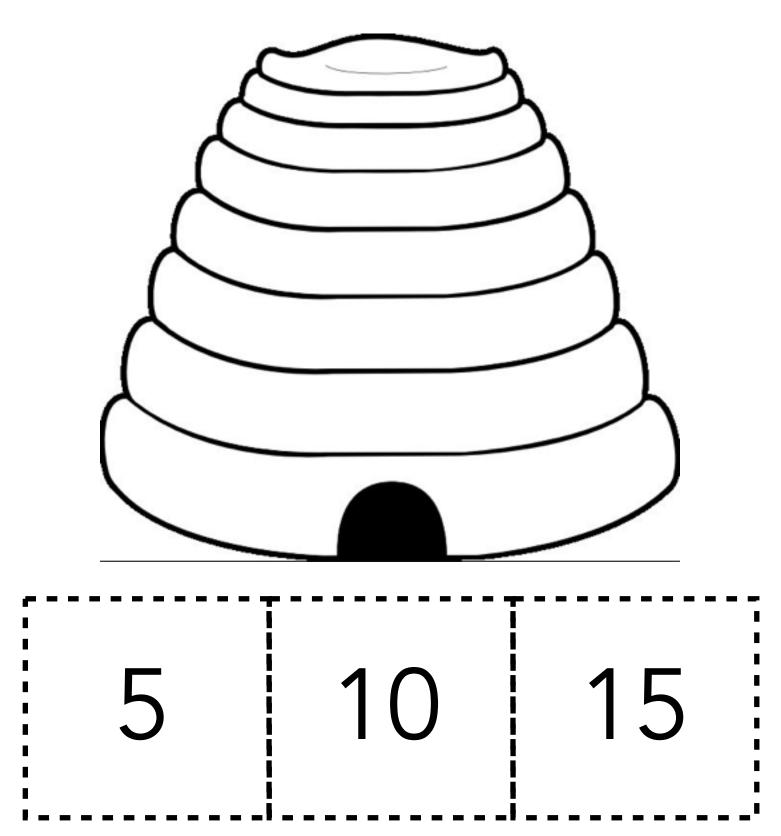
Big Idea								
Key Question								
Memory Verse								
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