

Lesson 7

## The Sermon on the Mount

**Theme:** Faith—Building our lives on Jesus

**Works & Words activities related to this lesson** }

*Take Care of Us, Works & Words, Book 1, page 14*

*Wise Against Foolish, Works & Words, Book 2, page 14*



### Sunday Morning Lesson

#### Pre-Class Activity

**Bible Facts:** Go for the Bible Facts!

**Memory Verse:** Reproduce a worksheet with blanks in the Memory Verse to be filled in by the students. A sample worksheet is found on page 63 of this Guide. After all students have completed the worksheet, read it aloud together.

#### Prayer

#### Teaching Today's Lesson

1. In the classroom Bibles, find Matthew 5:1.
2. Move to the Bible story area.
3. Establish the setting by pointing out the place on the time line.
4. Further establish the setting by showing the area of Galilee on a map.
5. Ideas for telling the story:
  - Use the *Stop, Look, and Listen Lesson Graphics* showing Jesus giving His sermon on the Mount.
  - Use salt, light, birds, flowers, and rocks to tell the story of Jesus and His Sermon on the Mount.
  - Use Finger People.
6. Major points of today's lesson, adjusting more or less for different age groups:
  - The Beatitudes — Jesus teaches attitudes that are different than the world.
  - Jesus teaches His people to be salt and light.
  - Jesus teaches us to love everyone, even our enemies.
  - Jesus teaches us not to worry because God takes care of us like he takes care of the birds and the flowers.

- Jesus teaches us to be wise by building our lives on a solid rock.
7. At the appropriate time in the lesson read together the following verses:  
Matthew 5:1-12, 13-16, 43-45; 6:9-13, 25-34; 7:12, 24-27.
  8. Talk with the students about the fact that all of today's lesson was a "sermon." The story didn't have as much action as many stories do. But even as children, it is important to sit and listen to God's word being preached. Discuss what children can do during a sermon to help them listen and learn. For example, they may write down what the preacher puts on the screen or listen for the Scripture references and write them down.

**Things to Get or Do  
for Sunday Morning**

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## The Sermon on the Mount

**Theme:** Faith—Building our lives on Jesus

**Works & Words activities related to this lesson** }

*Love One Another, Works & Words, Book 1, page 15*  
*Sermon on the Mount, Works & Words, Book 2, page 15*

### Wednesday Night Lesson

#### Pre-Class Activity

**Bible Facts:** Go for the Bible Facts!

**Memory Verse:** Print the Memory Verse on paper using a relatively large font. Print a Memory Verse for each student. Cut up the words or phrases of the Memory Verse, and put the pieces in an envelope — one for each student. Have the students put the pieces together to form the Memory Verse. Another option is to provide construction paper and glue sticks and allow the students to glue the Memory Verse pieces on the construction paper in the correct order.

#### Prayer

#### Starter

Think about Bible class or school teachers who are especially effective. We appreciate all people who try to teach and help us. But some teachers are outstanding. They make lessons come alive and we remember what we learn from them. Jesus was the greatest teacher the world has ever known. He always spoke truth and knew when and how to teach His lessons the best. People came from many places and gathered around Jesus. He did not pass up opportunities to teach people about the way of God.

In his Gospel, Matthew includes Jesus' Sermon on the Mount. Jesus saw the crowds and went up on a mountain, probably so people could better see and hear. He sat down and spoke the greatest sermon ever preached. His main theme was how people could be right with God and ruled by God.

**Briefly Review the Lesson from Sunday Morning**

#### Things to Get or Do for Wednesday Night

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## Ideas for Illustrating and Reinforcing the Story

1. *Objective: Reinforce students' learning the beatitudes.*

Prepare a poster featuring the beatitudes. Leave key words blank and in the blank spaces place a Velcro™ dot. Prepare cards on which the key words are printed and attach Velcro™ dots to the back. Have the students place the key word cards in the proper places on the chart. You may use this activity later in the quarter to review the beatitudes or as a pre-class activity.

2. *Objective: Demonstrate that blessings are often found when we don't feel so happy.*

From the chart below, write or print the following statements on cards. On separate cards, write or print the beatitudes and their meanings.

<i>Statements</i>	<i>Beatitudes and Their Meanings</i>
I need help and none of my friends or family can help me.	Poor in Spirit — we need God
Someone is aggravating me!	Meek — strength under control
Someone has been mean to me.	Show mercy — be kind
I've done something bad.	Mourn — be sorry about sin
I want to learn and know lots more than I know.	Hunger and thirst after what is right — wanting to know and do God's will
People make fun of me for being a Christian.	Persecuted for doing right — sometimes it's hard to follow Jesus

Have students draw a statement card and choose which beatitude applies to the statement. Ask students to tell how they can turn the situation into a happy or “blessed” situation based on the beatitude.

3. *Objective: To teach what things in life are treasures in heaven.*

Prepare two shoe boxes for “treasures.” Label one box *Treasures on Earth* and the other *Treasures in Heaven*. Have printed cards with words such as money, house, car, boat, jewelry, love, prayers, service, worship, etc. A student chooses a card and decides which box it belongs in, stating to the class the reason for this choice. Once the “treasures” are distributed, wrap the *Treasures in Heaven* box with tape. Take the *Treasures on Earth* box and crush it, steal cards out of it, and otherwise destroy it. Talk about how treasures in heaven cannot really be destroyed.

4. *Objective: To demonstrate the function of and need for salt.*

Use salted and unsalted crackers. Let students taste the crackers and see for themselves the need for salt. Salt flavors food and makes it taste better. As Jesus' followers, we must “salt” the world around us, sprinkling it with faith, grace, and good works. If we don't do this, who will? Talk about ways even children can be salt in the world.