

FOLLOWERS – LESSON PLAN

Use the syllabus framework to complete above. Infants: 20 minutes; Juniors: 30 minutes; Middles & Seniors: 45 minutes

Age	Term	Mod.	Module Theme	Module Title	Lesson Title and Number
4	1	1	Faith	Jesus is great!	6: Jesus teaches us

(Mod. = Module Number, Module Theme - in the heading, Module Title - uppercase in the cell, Lesson Title - lowercase in the cell)

							
Verbal V <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Logical L	Spatial S <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Kinaesthetic K <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Musical M	Intra - personal P1	Inter - personal P2	Natural N

Tick the appropriate box(es) above [copy this:] for the modes of learning being used in this session.

Prayer

O Lord, open my eyes to see what is beautiful; my mind, to know what is true, my heart, to love what is good, for Jesus' sake.

Starter

Prayer of Esteem ... Children hold hands in a circle. Teacher walks around the outside of the circle and place one hand over each child one at a time. When placing the hand over a child's head, have children pray and thank God for that person. Encourage children to be specific in their prayers, such as "God, thank you for Daniel's cleverness" or "Thank you for Abigail's kindness." As the prayers wind down, move to a new child.

Learning objectives

To introduce the Beatitudes to children as guidelines for how to live as followers of Christ;
To create a Beatitudes display using the materials provided.

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Core Activities and Learning

Children will be told that they will be learning about Jesus being our Teacher and the things He taught us about.

Jesus had been walking with his disciples always teaching and talking with them. Jesus went on a hillside with his disciples and teach to all who wanted to listen.

1. Read the Beatitudes from the Children Bible. The Beatitudes teach us what it means to be blessed and show us the attitudes that followers of Jesus should have. "Beatitudes" means being blessed. (Write "blessed" under "Beatitudes" on the board.)

Explain and describe to children what "blessed" means. We ask God to bless our family, it is a blessing to have a home and a family, and friends, and food and toys, and getting to go to school, and having God's love and peace in our lives. These things are all blessings. Because God loves us, he wants to give us good things.

The Beatitudes are blessings we receive when we have certain attitudes, when we behave in a certain way. These attitudes that we will learn about are the attitudes of people who follow Jesus.

The word "blessed" can also be read "happy" and refers to the spiritual joy of those who have a relationship with Jesus. When we become a part of God's kingdom, through faith in Jesus, we too can share in the blessings that Jesus is talking about.

2. Explain and describe to children what each of the blessing means for our lives.

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven".

When we bow our heads and pray to God we humble ourselves before Him. We are poor in spirit when we acknowledge that we need God, and that everything we have comes from him.

"Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted".

God promises that he will comfort us when we are sad. He renews us daily.

"Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth".

To be meek means to be gentle and kind, it means never to return evil for evil, but always in everything to overcome evil by good. Meekness is to have the firm conviction that the good is more powerful than evil, and that the good is always victorious.

"Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied"

We not only need daily nourishment for our bodies, but also our souls. We will only be satisfied when we seek God daily for his guidance.

"Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy".

To have mercy is to be loving and kind to others. This doesn't mean just being loving and kind to your family and friends but also to those who you might not know and even those you don't like.

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

It reminds us of how Jesus gave up his life so that we might purified and have eternal life. When we ask God for forgiveness he forgives us and wipes our sins away.

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the children of God"

It remind us of people living side by side in peace, that those who are peacemakers will be called sons of God.

"Blessed are they who are persecuted for righteousness' sake for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when men revile you, and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely for my sake"

It reminds us that we should happy when people persecute us for our beliefs because we will receive great treasures in heaven.

God promises that we will be blessed if we follow these teachings but it won't be easy. We all are still figuring out how to do these things.

Jesus gave us these beatitudes because He wanted to give us something to aim for, to work on our whole life to try to achieve. He wants us to try our best and give us a life full of blessings and reward us even bigger in heaven someday.

3. Beatitudes display. Create a beatitudes display by using one paper plate and cut out hand shapes

On the plate, write "BLESSED ARE" in the centre, on the hands write out the eight Beatitudes. Children will use glue these around the paper plate.

We can be the hands of Christ as we treat others the way Jesus would. We can help those who hunger & thirst, who mourn.

Resources

The Bible for Young People

paper plate, cut out hand shapes

Review

In the next session ask one of the children to recall what we have learnt this Sunday.

Follow Up

In the next session we will learn more about how Jesus died for all.