

# SABBATH SCHOOL

## Preteen Sabbath Instruction Program — Teacher's Outline

---

---

Level 5 • Unit 10 • Week 1

### THE BEATITUDES – PART 1

**OBJECTIVE:**

To examine four great attitudes taught in the Sermon on the Mount.

**ATTENTION GETTER:**

Do: Tell the four following true stories from the Bible. Later in the lesson, you will refer to these events to help the children understand one of the Beatitudes. Perform two of the stories as skits.

1. Parable of the publican and Pharisee (Luke 18:10-14). Use this story to illustrate how the publican was poor in Spirit as opposed to the Pharisee.
2. Parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:30-37). Use this story to illustrate mourning and showing compassion for others.
3. Abraham and Lot's land dispute (Genesis 13:6-12). Use this story to show meekness and a desire to get along.
4. Hezekiah makes repairs on the house of the Lord (2 Chronicles 29). Use this story to show the importance of wanting to do what is right in God's sight.

Skit Idea 1: Parable of the Publican and the Pharisee (based on Luke 18:10-14)

Characters: Publican  
Pharisee  
Narrator

*Narrator:* Two men went up to the temple to pray; the one a Pharisee, and the other a publican. The Pharisee stood up and began praying in a loud voice so all could hear him.

*Pharisee:* God I thank you that I am not a dirty crook. I am glad that I do not get money in the wrong way. And I am glad that I do not do other bad sins and I am certainly glad I am not like this publican. You know what a good person I am God, how I fast twice a week and tithe on every little thing.

*Narrator:* Over on the other side of the room the publican is praying.

*Publican:* [*Sadly beating on his chest*] God be merciful to me for I am a great sinner.

*Narrator:* Jesus tells us that this publican went down to his house justified and the Pharisee did not.

Skit Idea 2: Good Samaritan (based on Luke 10:30-37)

Characters: Man traveling  
Robber (note you can have as many robbers as you wish)  
Priest passing by  
Levite passing by  
Samaritan  
Host of the inn  
Narrator

*Narrator:* A certain man went down from Jerusalem to Jericho and was attacked by thieves who robbed him and wounded him leaving him for dead. [*Act this out.*] By chance, a priest came walking by.

*Priest:* [*To himself*] There's a man over there that is hurt. But I dare not cross the street and touch him, because if he is already dead, then I will be ceremonially unclean and unable to perform my priestly duties.

*Narrator:* The priest walks on by. A few minutes later a Levite passes by.

*Levite:* That man over there is hurt and needs help, but if I take the time to help him, I will be late for serving at the temple. Besides I just don't want to get involved.

*Narrator:* So the Levite passed by. A short time later a Samaritan passes by.

*Samaritan:* Why that poor man over there is hurt! [*Kneels over him.*] Can you stand? [*Helps him to his feet and helps him down the street.*]

*Narrator:* The Samaritan takes the man to the nearest inn and watches over him. When it is time for him to leave, he pays the innkeeper to watch over him.

## **BIBLE LESSON:**

Say: Since Jesus Christ is our very creator, He is our great teacher. In this lesson, we will learn some of the important lessons Jesus taught His students or disciples. In a previous lesson we learned that the word "disciple" means a student.

Do: Read Matthew 5:1-2 together.

Ask: Where was the huge classroom where Jesus taught His disciples?

Say: As Jesus went about healing and helping others, He drew great crowds. At one point, it got so crowded that Jesus and His disciples had to climb up on a mountain. This provided a nice opportunity to teach some important lessons to His disciples. Let's notice the things Jesus taught His students.

Do: Can you find the word that is used nine times in Matthew 5:3-12?

Say: The word "blessed" means to be happy. Jesus wants all humanity to live the way that brings happiness to all. Therefore in these verses He explains some of the attitudes that will make God, other people and us happy.

Ask: What is the first attitude that Jesus says we must have in order for our lives to be happy?

Do: Remind the students of the parable of the publican and the Pharisee.

Ask: In this parable, the publican is a good example of one who is poor in spirit. Why do you think his actions pleased Jesus?

Say: He realized the things he did wrong and wanted God's forgiveness. The Pharisee on the other hand thought he was so good that he did not need God's help or forgiveness.

Ask: What is the next thing Jesus says we must do to know happiness?

Say: When one mourns, he is sad.

Ask: So why did Jesus say that it is the people who mourn that will be happy? [Remind the students of the parable about the good Samaritan.]

Do you think the Samaritan felt bad about the injured man? Did he care? What actions showed that he cared?

Say: The good Samaritan felt bad to see another fellow human being suffering. He cared so much that he took the time and paid the expense to help this man.

Ask: What are some ways that we can show we are concerned about others and feel bad when something bad happens to them? [Examples: visiting the sick, sending flowers to one in the hospital, etc.]

Say: Let's notice the next group of people upon whom Jesus pronounces a blessing. Jesus shows us that we should be meek people.

In the story of Abraham's and Lot's men fighting over land, do you remember how Abraham wisely solved the problem? He allowed Lot to have the best of the land. By allowing Lot to choose the land he wanted, Abraham was being meek. Since he was the leader of his family, he could have demanded the best of the land. But he was willing to let Lot and his men take what they wanted. When you are meek, you do not demand your own way but gladly do what is best for everybody.

Ask: What is the fourth beatitude?

Say: Psalm 119:172 tells us what righteousness is.

Ask: Who would like to read it? [Have the student read the scripture.]

How many of God's commandments does the verse say equal righteousness?

Say: That's right! "All" of God's commandments are righteousness..

Remember how King Hezekiah wanted to cleanse the temple and remove all of the false worship and lead the people back to God. He greatly desired to do what God wanted. To hunger and thirst after righteousness means to desire to do what God wants us to do.

### **LESSON APPLICATION:**

Make a Beatitudes picture book.

Do: Have each student draw and color a picture that would illustrate one of the four Beatitudes discussed. Then gather them together. Ask each student to share their picture with the class.

### **MEMORY VERSE:**

Matthew 5:6 "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be filled."

### **MUSIC:**

Teacher's choice from the United Church of God hymnal.

# *family activity*

## **THE POINT:**

To examine four great attitudes taught in the Sermon on the Mount.

## **ASK ME...**

- Why is it that a person who is poor in Spirit knows that he needs God?
- Does a meek person want to get along with others?
- When a person mourns, how does this show he/she is a caring person?
- What can God tell about a person who hungers and thirsts after righteousness?

## **FAMILY TOGETHER TIME:**

- Discuss reasons why we humans are helpless without God.
- Talk about some of the people in the world who need compassion and help. If possible, as a family, visit a sick person in the hospital or visit a nursing home.

## **MEMORY VERSE:**

Matthew 5:6 "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be filled."