



Friends of Jesus and Mary

Cycle A - IV Sunday in Ordinary Time

Zephaniah 2, 3; 3, 12-13; Psalm 145; 1Corinthians 1, 26-31; Matthew 5, 1-12a

The Beatitudes

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he had sat down, his disciples came to him. He began to teach them, saying: "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are they who mourn, for they will be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the land. Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be satisfied. Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy. Blessed are the clean of heart, for they will see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when they insult you and persecute you and utter every kind of evil against you falsely because of me. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven."

Reflection

What does Beatitude mean? (blessing or happiness) Jesus explains to us how to be happy or blessed. It is not how the world sees happiness. How does the world see happiness?

(Having riches, popularity, fame...) Jesus uses words like poor, mourn, persecuted. Are these words we use when we think of happiness? (No.) Why does Jesus call blessed: those who are poor in spirit, those who mourn...? (We seek God when we are sad or in need of help. We remember that we need Him. God is close to those who are poor in spirit, those who cry...consoling, helping, loving them.) Do we usually ask God for help when we are happy or sad? (Sad) When everything goes well in our life do we tend to pray more or less? (Often, we pray less. When we are satisfied, we may forget God. We may even think we obtained everything ourselves. We can forget that everything good comes from God.) Can we be happy without God? (No, we will never have true happiness or eternal happiness without God.) Jesus said: blessed are those with a clean heart because they will see God. Where is the Kingdom of God? (In Heaven and in our heart - wherever Jesus is present.) Do you like visiting a house that is dark, dirty, and smelly? (No) Do you think Jesus feels comfortable in a heart full of sin, hate, anger, and pride? (No, He cannot live there.) How can we make our heart beautiful for Jesus? (Attend the Sacrament of Reconciliation; be kind; share; forgive...) Jesus also said, blessed are those who desire justice, are merciful, and work for peace. Good works are the fruits of having Jesus in our heart. Jesus lived the Beatitudes. He wants us to follow Him so we may have true happiness in this life and in the next.



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Activity

On the following page, match the first part of each Beatitude with its ending. On the last page, complete the craft.

Prayer

Jesus, I want to follow you. Help me to imitate you, avoiding sin, forgiving those who hurt me, and working for your Kingdom. I offer you my sufferings for the conversion of sinners. I love you very much.

Song: Beatitudes, Kingdom Kids, <https://youtu.be/QMm9F9VXWLg> (4-7 years)

Beatitudes, Brentwood Benson, <https://youtu.be/05GkhZfbANG> (8+ years)

PPT: https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/12EccQCKZY9V7lGWYXYIHpaLxW8X-bQVz/edit?usp=share_link&ouid=115268475267556305384&rtpof=true&sd=true

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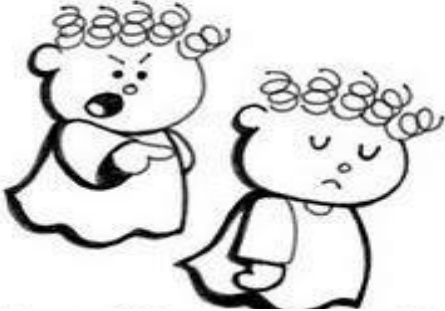
The Beatitudes

Instructions: Draw a line to match the first part of each Beatitude to its ending.

- | | |
|--|---|
| • Blessed the poor in spirit, | • for they will be comforted. |
| • Blessed are they who mourn, | • for they will be satisfied. |
| • Blessed are the meek, | • for they Will be shown mercy. |
| • Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness, | • Rejoice and be glad, for your rejoice Will be great in Heaven". |
| • Blessed the merciful, | • for they will see God. |
| • Blessed are the clean of heart, | • for they will be called children of God. |
| • Blessed are the peacemakers, | • for theirs is the kingdom of God. |
| • Blessed are they who are persecuted for the cause of justice, | • for they will inherit the land. |
| • Blessed are you when they insult you and persecute you and utter every kind of evil against you falsely because of me. | • For theirs is the kingdom of Heaven. |



THE BEATITUDES - BLESSED OR HAPPY ARE...



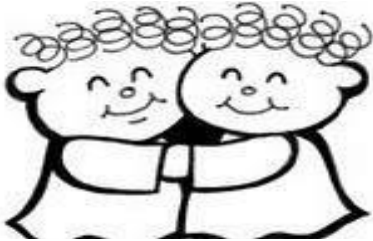
THE PERSECUTED



THE POOR IN
SPIRIT



THOSE
WHO
MOURN



THE PEACEMAKERS



THE MERCIFUL



THE MEEK



THE
CLEAN
HEARTED



THOSE
WHO LOVE
JUSTICE

INSTRUCTIONS: Cut a large circle (7" diameter) on yellow construction paper in the shape of a sun. Cut around the above pictures in a circular shape. Color the pictures and glue onto the yellow circle.