Friends of Jesus and Mary

Cycle A - XXXI Sunday in Ordinary Time

Revelations 7: 2-4, 9-14; Psalm 23, 1-2, 3-4ab. 5-6; 1Juan 3: 1-3; Matthew 5, 1-12

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.**

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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12651 South Dixie Highway, Suite 100B – Miami, FL 33156 – Tel: 1-305-412-1777 – E-mail: info@fcpeace.com
Webpage: www.fcpeace.org

STEP BY STEP THE KINGDOM NECKLACE

1 CUT OUT THE PIECES



If you want, color and decorate the pieces.

2 MAKE THE HOLES

Use a hole punch to make small holes in the crown and in each gem.



3 STRING THE GEMS

Thread the string through the holes and connect all the gems around the crown.



4 TIE THE STRING

Make a strong knot at the top to complete the necklace.



5 HANG IT AND ENJOY!

Hang your Kingdom Necklace on a wall, door, or classroom bulletin board.

Each gem will remind you of a teaching of Jesus.





Rebek Crafts

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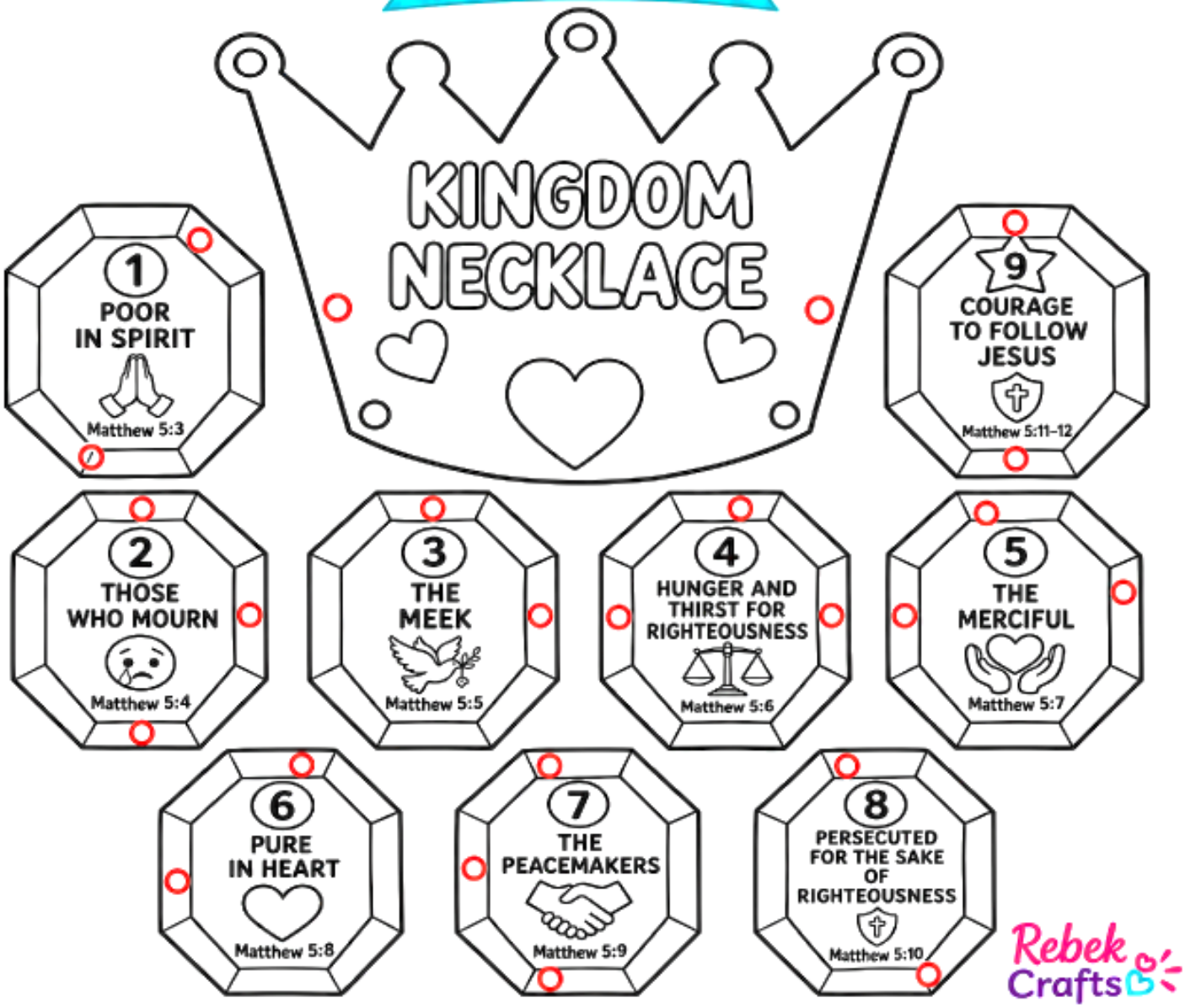
PRINTABLE TEMPLATE

THE KINGDOM NECKLACE

CROWN AND 9 GEMS

Cut out the pieces

Make holes to thread the string



Rebek Crafts

PRINTABLE TEMPLATE

THE KINGDOM CROWN

Cut out the pieces

Cut a strip of cardstock 2 inches wide and 14 inches long. Glue the crown in the middle and the gems on both sides. Staple in the back.



1 POOR IN SPIRIT
Matthew 5:3

2 THOSE WHO MOURN
Matthew 5:4

3 THE MEEK
Matthew 5:5

4 HUNGER AND THIRST FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS
Matthew 5:6

5 THE MERCIFUL
Matthew 5:7

6 PURE IN HEART
Matthew 5:8

7 THE PEACEMAKERS
Matthew 5:9

8 PERSECUTED FOR THE SAKE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS
Matthew 5:10

9 COURAGE TO FOLLOW JESUS
Matthew 5:11-12

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The Beatitudes

Instructions: Draw a line from the first part of each beatitude to its correct ending.

• Blessed are the poor in spirit,	• for they will be comforted.
• Blessed are those who mourn,	• for they will be satisfied.
• Blessed are the meek,	• for they will receive mercy.
• Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,	• for their reward will be great in heaven.
• Blessed are the merciful,	• for they will see God.
• Blessed are the pure in heart,	• for they will be called children of God.
• Blessed are the peacemakers,	• for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
• Blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness,	• for they will inherit the earth.
• Blessed are you when they insult you, persecute you, and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me.	• for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Who are the Blessed by Jesus...?



Those who are persecuted



The poor in spirit



Those who mourn



Those who build peace





The patient



The pure in heart



The merciful

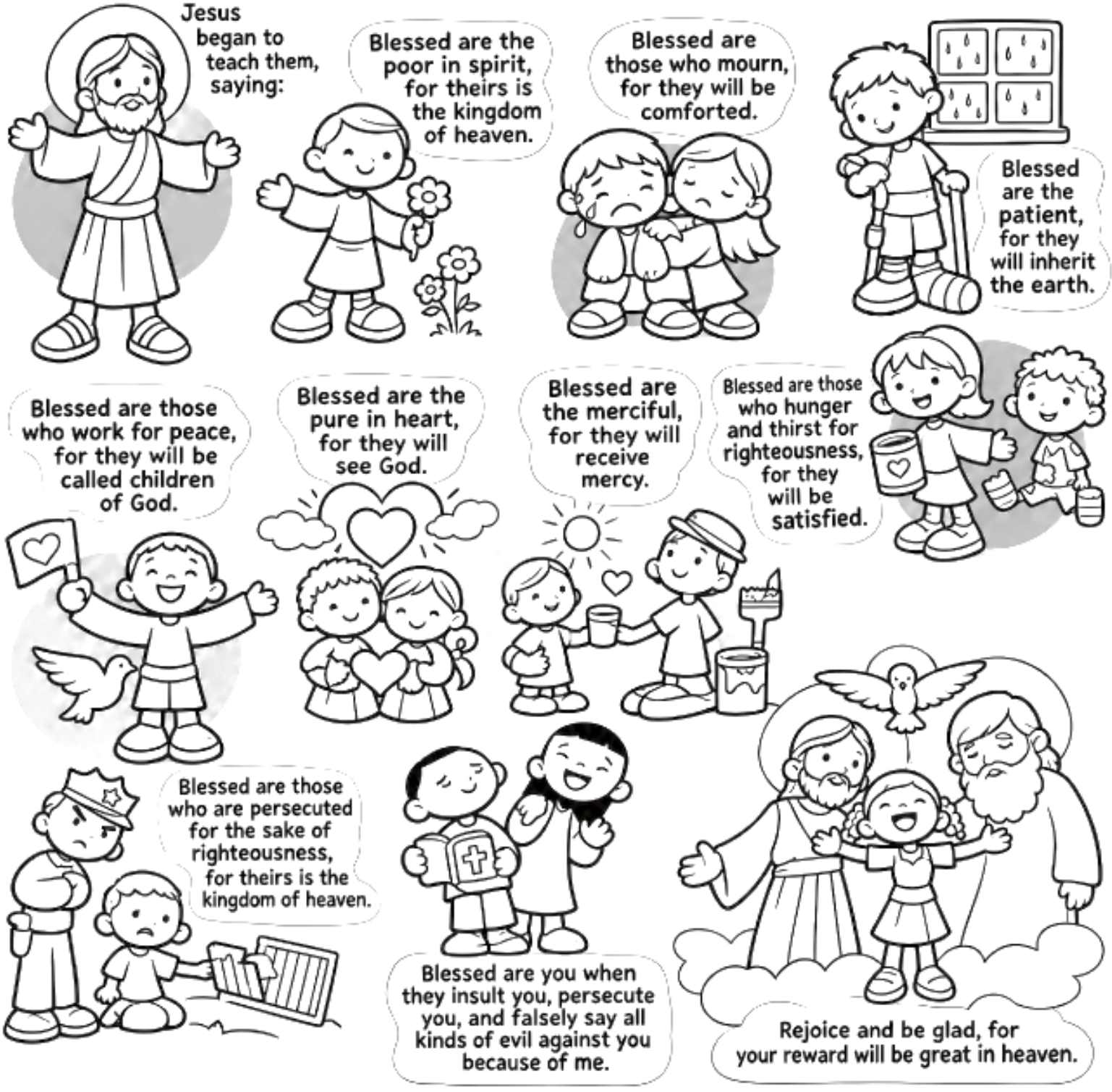


Those who hunger and thirst for righteousness

INSTRUCTIONS: Cut out a large circle (7-inch diameter) from yellow construction paper that looks like a sun. Cut out Jesus and glue Him in the center. Cut around the drawings in a circle shape. Color the drawings and glue them around the edge of the sun.

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The Beatitudes (Matthew 5:2-12)



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