

Together @ Home

Lectionary Edition
Sunday 1st November
All Saint's Day



Here are some activities you could do together as a family, begin with the story and then do as many or as few as you like, in any order.

Bible Passage

Today we will be exploring together, Jesus' Beatitudes from the Sermon on the Mount.

You can find it in your Bible in:
Matthew 5 v 1-12

Read the story together – choose a Bible translation or children's story version which best suits your group.

The other passages we might be thinking about at church this week are:

Revelation 7 v 9-17
Psalm 34 v 1-10,22
1 John 3 v 1-3
Matthew 5 v 1-12

A prayer to say together

Dear God,
Thank you that you love us and want to bless us. Thank you for Jesus' teaching which reminds us that you bless those who need you most. Help us to seek what pleases you and trust you to give us what we need.

We pray for those in our world who are struggling, the poor, the sick, the grieving, the homeless and the hungry. Would you bless them and those who are working to help them.

Show us God how we can be a blessing to those around us.

Amen.

Discussion

A question for adults to ask children

What are blessings? Who was blessed in the passage?

This list is often called the 'Beatitudes' and beatitude means being blessed! Blessings are when we receive good things from God. During his famous sermon on the mount Jesus shared this list of people who are blessed. It might have surprised his audience that God chose to bless those who needed Him most – the sad, the poor, the hurting and those who needed his help.

Why do you think God chose these people to bless?

A question for children to ask adults

Can you tell me about a time when you felt blessed by God?

Family Activity 1

How can your family be a blessing this week? Why not talk and pray together about who God would want to bless in your community. Here are some ideas of ways to be a blessing.

Make sure to choose activities that comply with your local social distancing and lockdown rules.

- Bake or cook something to share with a neighbour or friends.
- Write, draw or film an encouraging message for somebody you cannot visit at the moment.
- Look through your wardrobes for something you could donate that you have outgrown or no longer wear.



A verse to remember

Revelation 7 v 16–17

“Those people will never be hungry again, and they will never be thirsty again. The sun will not hurt them, and no heat will burn them, because the Lamb at the centre of the throne will be their shepherd. He will lead them to springs of water that give life. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”



What a beautiful picture we find in Revelation, people in white robes bowing down before God’s throne giving thanks – this is the ultimate blessing that Jesus promised. Those who were hungry and thirsty, those who were sad are now drawn close to the God who loves them like a shepherd.

Why not read the whole passage from Revelation 7 v 9-17: how does it make you feel? What similarities can you find to Jesus’ words in Matthew 5?

Active Prayer

Print and cut out the Beatitudes cards from the next page or make your own.

Place all the cards upside down on the table. Take it in turns to flip over two cards and try to find a matching pair. If you find a matching pair lead everybody else in the prayer asking God to help you be the sort of person that He wants to bless.

Thank you to

www.flamecreativekids.blogspot.co.uk

for giving us permission to adapt their Beatitudes cards.



Family Activity 2

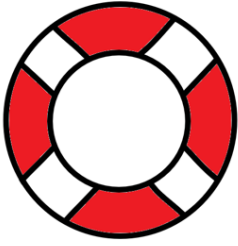
Today’s passage comes from Jesus’ famous ‘Sermon on the Mount’ Why not take on one of these mountain challenges...

- Go for a family walk and climb the highest hill you can find!
- Build a mountain in your home, you could use anything you have around building blocks and Lego, cushions and pillows or even make a mountain of shoes!
- Visit Mount Everest the highest mountain in the world ! You can take a virtual look using Google Maps!



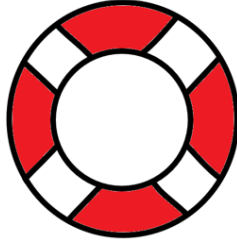
Matthew 5 v 3

Blessed are those who realise they need God to save them.



Heaven is theirs.

Dear God,
Help me to trust in you and rely on you in every area of my life.
Amen



Matthew 5 v 4

Blessed are those who are sad or upset.



God will comfort them.

Dear God,
Thank you that you are there and care when I am sad or upset.
Thank you that I am never alone.
Amen



Matthew 5 v 5

Blessed are those who don't show off but are servant hearted.



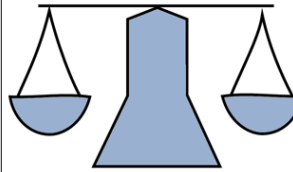
The whole earth will be theirs.

Dear God,
Help me to think more about others and what they want and need.
Amen



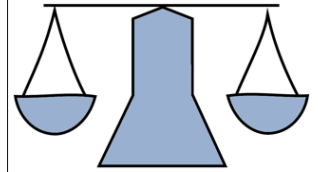
Matthew 5 v 6

Blessed are those who want fairness and justice.



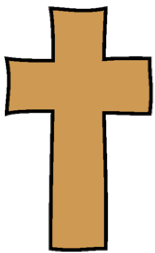
God will satisfy them.

Dear God,
Help me to treat others fairly and to make wise choices. Help me to seek justice in the world.
Amen



Matthew 5 v 7

Blessed are those who show forgiveness to others.



They will be forgiven.

Dear God,
Thank you that you forgive my mistakes. Help me to show forgiveness to others.
Amen



Matthew 5 v 8

Blessed are those who try to please God in their thoughts.



They will see God.

Dear God,
Help me to think about what you would want. Give me pure thoughts and a clean heart.
Amen



Matthew 5 v 9

Blessed are those who are try bring peace and stop others fighting.



God will call them His children.

Dear God,
Help me to be a peacemaker, seeking peace not arguments. Give me strength to not fight back when people upset me.
Amen



Matthew 5 v 10

Blessed are those who get in trouble for doing the right thing.



God's Kingdom belongs to them.

Dear God,
Help me to stand up for what is right and good.
Amen



A colouring page you could print and colour together

This page is from religiousdoodles.com you can find all the beatitudes as colouring pages here:
<https://www.religiousdoodles.com/sermon-on-the-mount-coloring-pages.html>

Doodle Art Alley ©

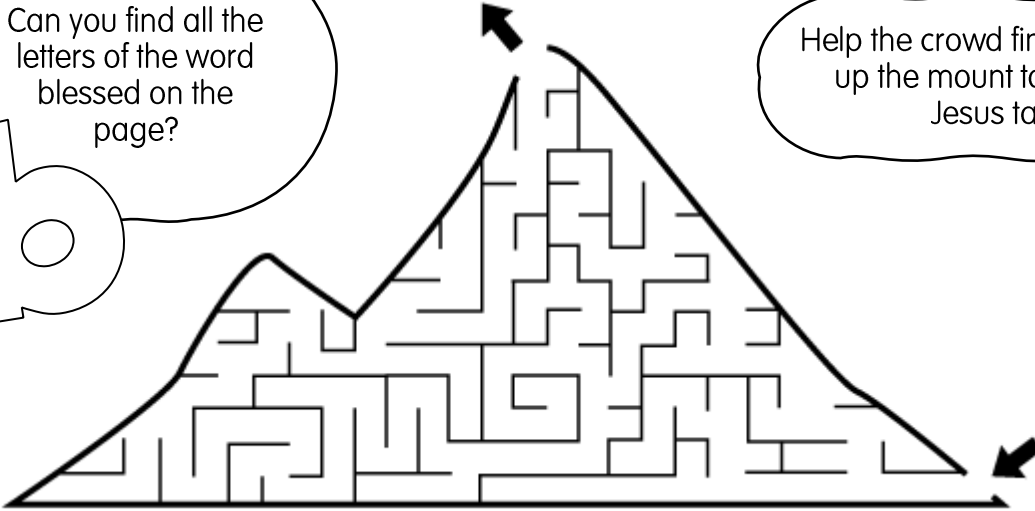


PUZZLE SHEET

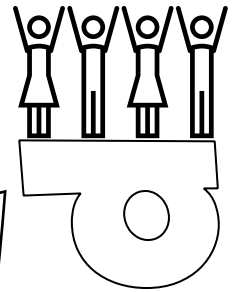
Can you find all the letters of the word blessed on the page?

b

Help the crowd find their way up the mount to listen to Jesus talk

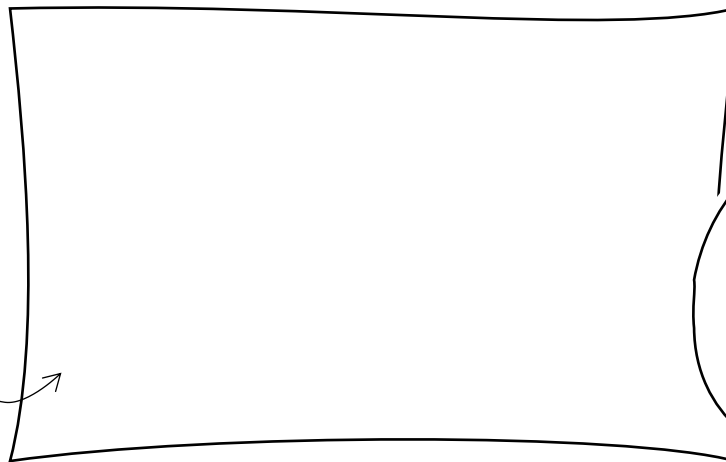


Maze from:  Muse Printables
Copyright © 2010 MusePrintables.com



Jesus said "They are blessed whose thoughts are pure, for they will see God." – what do you think God looks like?

Draw God here.



Can you find all the words in the word search?

S	P	I	R	Y	P	A	H	A	E
E	L	H	P	S	E	A	R	H	T
N	R	U	O	M	P	O	O	R	R
G	R	N	F	P	O	I	R	D	E
E	T	G	Y	I	H	E	R	R	T
N	N	E	P	E	C	A	C	I	H
T	E	R	A	P	W	R	R	P	T
L	G	V	O	E	A	T	E	S	A
E	E	T	R	A	E	H	M	M	E
N	H	U	N	G	R	E	R	E	R

- HAPPY
- HEAVEN
- MOURN
- PURE
- POOR
- GENTLE
- HUNGER
- HEART
- SPIRIT
- EARTH
- MERCIFUL
- REWARD

