

Volume I Chapter 3

Table of

Contents

Chapter 3	Jesus Christ	
	Doctrinal Statement	36
	Introduction	37
	Lesson 1 Jesus Is Born	39
	Lesson 2 Satan Tempts Jesus	42
	Lesson 3 Jesus Turns Water Into Wine.....	45
	Lesson 4 Jairus' Daughter Raised.....	47
	Lesson 5 Good Samaritan.....	50
	Lesson 6 Jesus' Triumphal Entry.....	53
	Lesson 7 Jesus The Messiah.....	55
	Study Helps	
	The "Beatitudes.....	58
	Miracles of Jesus.....	61
	Parables of Jesus.....	63

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Jesus Christ

Jesus of Nazareth is the Christ, the son of God and the Son of man. He was prophesied Messiah of the Old Testament and is described throughout the New Testament as being both fully human and fully divine. As second member of the God family, He has existed from eternity as the “Word.” He divested Himself of His power and majesty and became a human being to die for the sins of all mankind as our loving and merciful Saviour. He was then resurrected and ascended to heaven to become our High Priest and the head of all things to the Church. Jesus Christ shall return to establish the Kingdom of God on earth and rule as King of kings with His saints forever.

Introduction

Jesus Christ

Christ as the “Word of God” John 1:1 has existed with the Father from eternity.

Colosians 1:16, “For by Him [Christ] were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible

The “Word of God” - Christ - was also the Creator God, who fashioned the universe and breathed the breath of life into Adam.

Christ’s crucifixion is a perfect illustration of Jesus’ love and mercy.

Jesus Christ is the chief cornerstone and foundation of Christianity, the focal point of both Old and New Testaments and of biblical prophecy. He is the one around whom God’s plan of redemption and salvation revolves.

Jesus Christ and the Father together devised a plan to reproduce themselves and to expand their family by means of the human creation. This creation was accomplished by the one who became Christ through the agency and power of the Holy Spirit. In John 1:3, John says, “all things were made by Him; and without Him was not any thing made that was made.”

The being who later became Jesus Christ was likewise the God of the Old Testament and hence the one who walked with Noah and talked with Abraham and with Moses (John 8:58, Exodus 3:14). He was the God of Israel, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the God who gave His law to Moses at Sinai. He was the one who led Israel with a cloud by day and protected them by a pillar of fire at night. He was Israel’s Protector, their Guide and their “Rock”—(“and that “Rock was Christ,” I Cor. 10:4). He likewise was the God of David and was the one who dwelled in Solomon’s temple. He spoke through Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel and all the prophets and inspired the entirety of the Old Testament.

In order to fulfill the divine master plan of salvation, this great being divested Himself of all His power, might and majesty and took upon Himself “the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men” (Phillipians 2:7).

As a human being, Jesus led a sinless, perfect life although He “was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin” (Hebrews 4:15). Jesus was our example who learned obedience through suffering; He became our Saviour whose atoning death paid the death penalty for all the sins of mankind.

John 15:13, In Christ's own words the greatest love a man can have is to "lay down his life for his friends".

Christ's resurrection from the dead was the focal point of universal history.

Revelation 1:13-16 Christ has ascended and is exalted at the right hand of God. He is once again actually God, all powerful and shining in the spirit realm like the sun.

Christ is the living head of His Church.

Christ, who began the creation will also finish it.

Jesus' sacrifice for us is powerfully poignant in that;

- "while we were yet sinners Christ died for us" (Romans 5:8),
- "when we were [still] enemies" (Romans 5:10).

Note: Jesus laid down His life for us. The giving of His life on the stake for all humanity was the greatest example of the greatest love which can be shown.

The resurrection was an event of ultimate importance without equal in the unfolding of God's master plan. His burial for three days and three nights and His subsequent resurrection was the very sign and proof of His messiahship (Matthew 12:40). His resurrection proved that man could also be resurrected; it showed the viability of God's plan and was the means by which human beings could eventually be resurrected to eternal life.

The death of Christ—the Creator of everything—was designed "from the foundation of the world" (Revelation 13:8) and was able to pay the penalty for the sins of humanity because His life was worth far more than the sum total of all the lives of all human beings who have ever lived or ever will live. Upon repentance and baptism, we have the opportunity to take advantage of Christ's sacrifice to pay the penalty for our own sins, through God's grace to receive the gift of eternal life—Jesus Christ's life,

Jesus is;

- the firstfruits of salvation,
- the first mortal to be made immortal,
- the first human being to become a member of the God family.
- He is the Christian's elder brother, and the forerunner of our salvation,
- the consummate High Priest and,
- Advocate, Intercessor and Mediator before God's throne of mercy.

After the completion of His 1,000-year rule, Jesus Christ will turn everything over to His Father, and God Himself will join His billions of spirit-composed sons as the new heaven and new earth are created (Revelation 21). God and His family will then rule the universe forever, and of "the increase of His government...there shall be no end" (Isaiah 9:7).

Bethlehem was prophesied to be the birthplace of the Messiah, (Micah 5:2).

There are two Bethlehems mentioned in the Bible:

- Judea
- Galilee

Luke writes that Joseph and Mary went “into Judea, to the City of David, which is called Bethlehem.”

Jesus was not an uncommon name. It is the Greek form of Joshua.

The name Jesus was not given by Mary or Joseph. It was given by the angel of the Lord (Matthew 1:21).

Matthew 2:8-18 is an example of Satan trying to interfere with the promise of God. This was no surprise to God. (Jerimiah 31:15).

Matthew 2:13-15 in a dream God tells Joseph to take his family to Egypt.

Matthew 2:23 Joseph puts down family roots in Nazareth, thus fulfilling another promise God told of in Hosea 11:1 “....out of Egypt I called my son.”

God Kept His Promise:

- The Son of God was miraculously conceived by the Holy Spirit in the womb of a virgin Isaiah 7:14.
- Satan tried to destroy Jesus as a baby. In spite of this, God protected His Son, and kept His promise to send a Savior for the world.

Lesson 1

Jesus Is Born

Bible Story:
Matthew 1:18 - 2:23

Focus:

- Jesus Christ was sent as our Savior from sin.

Purpose:

- God keeps His promise.
- God sent His Son to take our punishment.

Memory Verse:

- Galatians 4:4,5 “But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption as sons.”
- Romans 6:23 “For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

Generate Interest

God always keeps His promise!

Is it difficult for you or anyone else to keep a promise? Have you ever had anyone make a promise and then not keep it? Will you trust that person again when they make a promise?

Our story today is about:

- A fulfilled promise God made a long time ago (Genesis 3:15).

God loves us so much that He sent His Son to take our punishment.

Explain what sin is to your child. You may need to use examples that your child will understand. Such as;

Romans 6:23

- Do you or have you ever used God's name in vain?
- Do you or have you ever lied?
- Do you or have you ever stolen?

When discussing this, be sure to stress how sin displeases God. Jesus died for our sins, He suffered our punishment.

Synopsis

Betrothal means a promise to marry. This was a legally binding contract during Bible times.

Joseph and Mary are engaged to be married, when the angel, Gabriel appeared before Mary. The angel, Gabriel, told Mary she would become the mother of the Messiah, God's Son. This was a miracle. Mary was a virgin. She had not lived as a wife with, Joseph, the man she was betrothed to marry.

Before teaching this Lesson, be sure to familiarize yourself with the story and the following information:

Joseph was a "just man".

When Joseph found out that Mary was going to have a child, he wanted to break the engagement. He did not want to break the engagement publicly, but he wanted to do it in private. This incident shows the character of Joseph. The Bible says he was a "just man.". He did not want to humiliate Mary publicly. He sought to take care of matters privately. God then sent an angel to appear in a dream, to tell of the special circumstance of Mary's pregnancy. Joseph obeyed God, and did take Mary as his wife.

Joseph obeyed and trusted God.

"Christ" is a title not a name. It means, "The Anointed One."

Isaiah 7:14 Just as God had promised, the Son of God was conceived in the womb of a virgin.

Bethlehem means "House of Bread".

The ancestral home for both Joseph and Mary was Bethlehem.

Lesson 2

Satan Tempts Jesus

Bible Story:
Matthew 4:1-11
Mark 1:12, 13
Luke 4:1-13

Focus:

- Jesus proved His superiority over sin and Satan

Purpose:

- Memorizing the Word of God is important
- With the help of Jesus Christ we can have victory over sin.

Memory Verses:

- Psalm 119:11 “Your word I have hidden in my heart, That I might not sin against You.”
- I Peter 5:8 “Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.”

Generate Interest

Temptation?	What is the definition for temptation?
Satan uses Eve to tempt Adam. Satan goes directly to Jesus.	<p>In the Bible, there are numerous temptations spoken of. The two most popular ones: temptations that the majority of people are familiar with are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Satan tempted Adam.▪ Satan tempts Jesus in the wilderness.
Satan did not hold back when trying to tempt Jesus.	<p>What are the important parallels to these two important events?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Adam was well fed.▪ Jesus had been fasting for 40 days and was hungry.▪ Adam brought sin into the world by succumbing to temptation.▪ Jesus' obedience, not giving in to temptation, gave us an opportunity to be closer to God.
What did Satan offer Jesus?	<p>Satan offered Jesus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Food▪ Fame▪ Water <p>You've heard the saying, "there is no free ride"? This is just what Satan was trying to offer Jesus. Satan thought he could convince Jesus that He could have physical food, physical fame and physical water without putting forth work, effort or accomplishment.</p>
False ideas many have about Satan	<p>Is Satan just a character that appears at Halloween time? Is he a fictitious character who is dressed in a red suit with tail, horns and a pitchfork in hand? This is how Satan would like us to think he is.</p> <p><u>The Truth About Satan</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Isaiah 14:12-17 - The Fall of Lucifer.▪ Ezekiel 28:11-19 - Satan's original state, Satan's fall, Satan's future.▪ John 8:44 - Satan is not of God.▪ John 16:11 - Satan is the ruler of this world.▪ 2 Corinthians 11:14 - Satan makes himself look like the angel of light.▪ Rev 20:1-3 - Satan is bound for 1,000 years.
God wants us to know the TRUTH about Satan	

Synopsis

Jesus had a cousin whose name was John. You may know him as John the Baptist. Both Jesus and John began preaching at the age of 30. John baptized Jesus one day in the wilderness. When Jesus came up out of the water, the heavens were opened, and Jesus saw the Spirit of God descend like a dove upon Him. Matthew 3:17 “And suddenly a voice came from heaven, saying, “This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.” It was shortly after this, that Jesus was baptized. He was then led by the Spirit into the wilderness.

Talk It Over

Read the Bible Story:

Matthew 4:1-11

After reading the story, discuss with your child who Satan is and how powerful he is. Talk about the parallels between Adam and Jesus. Describe to your child how Satan used Eve to tempt Adam. However, when it came time to tempt Jesus, Satan pulled out all the stops. He went with force and he went directly. He twisted scripture and he did so while Jesus was physically hungry.

Jesus **quoted scripture** from the Old Testament when Satan tried to tempt Him.

Read Matthew 4:3

- Jesus said, “It is written... (read Deuteronomy 8:3)

Read Matthew 4:5-6

- Jesus said, “It is written...(read Deuteronomy 6:16)

Read Matthew 4:9

- Jesus said, “Away with you, Satan! For it is written...(Deuteronomy 6:13; 10:20)

Memory Verse:

Psalm 119:11 “Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.”

Jesus obeyed God. Jesus proved His power over Satan. If we ask, Jesus will help us to not give in to temptation. We can have victory over sin.

Lesson 3

Jesus Turns Water Into Wine

Bible Story:

John 2:1-11

Focus:

- Jesus began His ministry with performing a miracle

Purpose

- Jesus' first miracle was to turn water into wine.
- Doing miracles was one way that proved that Jesus was the Son of God.
- We should be in awe of Jesus' Great power.

Memory Verse:

- John 1:29 "...Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!"

Generate Interest

Weddings	Before a couple in Jesus' time could marry, they would be "betrothed". As discussed in the previous lesson, this was similar to being engaged today. However, betrothed was more binding than engaged. Gifts were given and oaths were exchanged. A wedding during Bible times could last anywhere from 7 to 14 days. It was a feast that was filled with eating, drinking, dancing, etc.
Shortage of Wine	To have a shortage of wine at such an occasion, would prove to be an embarrassment.
Waterpots	During this time, waterpots were used to store water. The water would be used to wash hands before a meal.
Master of the Feast	What does "Master of the Feast" mean? It meant that he was the man in charge of the food and drink.
Miracles	The miracles of Jesus are described sometimes as "mighty works". Miracles are done through the power of God. Miracles have been called "wonders". The Gospel of John is very clear that Jesus' miracles were "signs". The sign was that Jesus was the Messiah.
The sign of Jesus' miracles was that He was the Messiah.	

Synopsis

Read the Bible story:	After Satan tried to tempt Jesus, Jesus returned to the place John had baptized Him. While there, John told those gathered that "Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!" John 1:29. The first disciples were gathered. After this, Jesus attended a wedding in Cana, a village in Galilee.
John 2:11	

Talk It Over

After you and your child read the story, take the time to discuss what was read. Here are some suggestions to get you started:

- What is a miracle?
- Can only God do miracles?
- What does Faith mean?
- Do you believe in Jesus even though you have not seen Him?
- Do you believe the Bible is the Word of God?

Jesus proves who He is by doing miracles.

When we prove who we are, we usually show our birth certificate or license. Your parent tells you who you are, and who your family is. Jesus did many miracles to prove that He was not an ordinary person, but He was the Son of God.

Lesson 4

Jairus' Daughter Raised

Bible Story:
Mark 5:21-43

Focus:

- Jesus cares for us, and He is ready to help us.

Purpose:

- We should depend on Christ
- Jesus had sympathy for the parents of the ill girl.
- Have faith in the power of Jesus Christ

Memory Verses:

- Hebrew 13:5 “....I will never leave you nor forsake you.”
- Philippians 4:19 “And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.”
- Mark 536 “....Do not be afraid; only believe.”

Generate Interest

Who was Jairus?

Jairus was a synagogue ruler. There were two other rulers mentioned in the New Testament. They were; Crispus (Acts 18:8) and Sosthenes (Acts 18:17). Another name for synagogue ruler was “president of the synagogue.” Their duties would be to tend to the maintenance of the synagogue inside and out.

mourners

Note: During Bible times there were professional mourners. They would be paid to come to a funeral and mourn for the dead.

Synopsis

Prior to reading the Bible Story, have the following information in mind.

Jesus was in Galilee where rulers demanded He perform a miracle. Jesus did not accommodate their request. Jesus, later in the day, stills a great storm on the Sea of Galilee. Jesus heals a man possessed of demons and a woman who just touched His cloak. Jesus then heads for the home of Jairus and raises his daughter from the dead.

Jairus had faith.

There was no question in the mind of Jairus that Jesus could heal his ill daughter. Jairus was convinced that Jesus was the Son of God, and that as such He could do anything.

Jesus was delayed.

On the way to Jairus's home, Jesus was delayed by a woman who was sick. She had tremendous faith. Jesus said to her, “your faith has made you well.” This interruption must have tested Jairus's faith. He must have been anxious for Jesus to arrive at his home in order to save his daughter. However, at the same time, seeing the woman healed, certainly confirmed Jesus' power.

The little girl dies.

While Jesus was still speaking to the woman, that was just healed of her affliction, news came that Jairus's daughter had died.

Jesus gives Jairus words of encouragement, “Do not be afraid, only believe.”

It must have seemed as if all hope for Jairus's daughter was gone. How did Jairus feel? Do you think he was angry that Jesus had been delayed?

Remember:

- Jairus believed and had the faith that Jesus could heal his ill daughter, but
- did Jairus have the faith that Jesus could bring his daughter back to life?

Jesus shows His power over death.

The professional mourners were already wailing over the little girl's death when Jesus arrived. In fact, they scoffed at Jesus when He said she was only asleep. When Jesus took the hand of the little girl, and said, “Little girl, I say to you arise,” He showed His authority over death. Only God's Son could raise someone from the dead.

**Read the Bible Story:
Mark 5:21-43**

Talk It Over

Discuss with your child how Jesus showed His love and care for the parents of the dead girl. Some suggested questions;

- Do you believe Jesus can help you with problems?
- Do you have faith?
- Do you believe Jesus had joy when the little girl was alive, and He saw the happiness in the parents faces?

Introduce Memory Verses

Explain the Memory Verses

When you are afraid, remember what Jesus told Jairus. Mark 5:36, “Do not be afraid; only believe.”

Lesson 5

Good Samaritan

Bible Story:
Luke 10:25-37

Focus:

- We show our love for God when we give love to others.

Purpose:

- Show God's love everyday to others.
- Be kind and loving to all.
- Love your enemies.

Memory Verses:

- I John 3:18 "My little children, let us not love in word or in tongue, but in deed and in truth."
- Matthew 5:44 "'But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you.'"

Generate Interest

Samaria is located between Galilee and Judea.

Samaritans were not well liked by the Jews. By Jesus' time, a deep hostility was apparent between Jews and Samaritans. Samaritans were considered a mixed race, not true Israelites.

What was the Inn like that the Good Samaritan took the wounded man to?

By no means was the inn that the wounded man was taken to luxurious. Inns during Bible times were not like we have today. Their purpose was first and foremost to protect you from the environment. Some Inns did not even have Innkeepers. It is obvious that this was not the case here. The Inn that the wounded man had been taken to had an Innkeeper who provided shelter, food and entertainment.

The Jericho Road was also known as "The Way of Blood".

The Jericho Road goes from Jerusalem to Jericho. It was not an easy road to travel. There were many steep places and rocky passes. Certainly it was not a road one would want to travel alone or at night.

Synopsis

Jesus had been ministering in Galilee for two years. Jesus had done many miracles and taught numerous lessons. In this story, a lawyer tries to trick Jesus. He asked Jesus, "How can I inherit eternal life?" Why did the lawyer really ask this question?

A "lawyer" was an expert in explaining God's laws.

- Was he trying to trick Jesus or get Jesus to contradict the law?
- Or, did the lawyer want to feel acceptable in the eyes of God?

Notice how Jesus answered the lawyer.

Jesus answered the lawyer with a question. Luke 10:26 "What does the law say?"

The lawyer called Jesus "Teacher", however did he believe He was the Son of God?

The lawyer answers, Luke 10:27 "A person must love God with all his being and his neighbor as himself."

What was the lawyer thinking as he quoted God's Word?

It seems that this lawyer thought he could earn eternal life by good works. Be sure to read James 2:10.

- Was he confident in his heart that he had and was keeping the Word of God?
- Was he uncomfortable knowing he did not love his neighbor as himself?

The lawyer answered Jesus correctly. He did not stop there. He pursued further by asking Jesus to define "neighbor". Who was a neighbor to this lawyer?

- A neighbor was only someone that was Jewish?
- A neighbor was only a poor Jew?

Jesus used a Parable “story” to answer the lawyer.

Read the Bible Story:
Luke 10:25-37

Who stopped to help the wounded man?

- Not the priest who did sacrifices in the temple.
- Not the Levite who assisted the priest.
- The Samaritan who was despised by the Jews for not being a perfect race helped the wounded man.

The Good Samaritan did more than just help the wounded man to the Inn. He did the following:

- He paid for all expenses.
- He left money with the Innkeeper.
- He promised to return and pay the Innkeeper additional funds, if the wounded man incurred extra expenses.

Talk It Over

This parable is a wonderful example of what it means to truly love God by being a good neighbor. Ask;

- Do you think it was easy for the lawyer to admit that the Samaritan was the good neighbor?
- Is it easy to show love to your friends or to those that are like you?
- Is it easy to show love to those who are your enemies or to those unlike you?
- Is it important that we love all people regardless of their race or nationality?

Help your child to find ways they can be kind to their neighbors.

Lesson 6

Jesus' Triumphal Entry

Bible story:
Matthew 21:1-11

Focus:

- Jesus is Praised and received as King.

Purpose:

- We should praise Jesus.
- Praise Jesus for who He is.

Memory Verses:

- Mark 11:9 "Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!"

Generate Interest

PRAISE

Hebrew words which enrich our concept of praise are:

- Halal, “to acclaim,” “glory in”.
- Yadah, “acknowledge God’s character and give thanks.”
- Zamar, “to sing praise”, “make music”.

This event takes place during Passover week. There are just a few days before Jesus is crucified.

Prophecy fulfilled. Zechariah prophesied of Jesus entering Jerusalem on a colt, the foal of a donkey. Read Zechariah 9:9.

Synopsis

Jesus had left Judea, and was on His way to Jerusalem. On this visit to Jerusalem, Jesus would be crucified. The crowds that welcomed and praised Jesus as He rode in on the donkey, would be the same crowds that would turn against Him later in the week.

Read the Bible Story:
Matthew 21:1-11

Chances are, the crowd that gathered to praise Jesus did not understand what He had come to accomplish.

Hosanna

Hosanna means, “Save Us Now”. Many probably expected Jesus to “save” them from the oppression of Rome. Do you think they were praising Jesus for who He is or were they praising Him for the miracles He could do for them?

Revelation 4:11
Colosians 1:16,17

Jesus is Lord of **all**. Jesus created our world and everything that is in it. It is important that we:

- Admire Jesus.
- Thank Jesus.
- Praise Jesus for who He is.

Do not be like the crowds who welcomed Jesus in Jerusalem. Praise Jesus for who He is. He is the Son of God, He is King, and He is **Lord of All**.

Lesson 7

Jesus The Messiah

Bible Story:

Acts 1:1-11

Focus:

- Jesus will return.

Purpose:

- Jesus bore our sins.
- Jesus died on the stake.
- Jesus rose
- Jesus WILL return.

Memory Verse:

- John 11:25 “I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live.”

Generate Interest

Luke 4:18, 19	The concepts of the Old Testament Messiah had been fulfilled. Jesus came to deliver us from sin and give us the opportunity to be in God's very family.
Matthew 6:21	Jesus prophesied He would die and rise again.
Luke 1:32, 33	Jesus will return and sit on the throne of David.
Hebrews 9:12	Jesus did not offer the blood of animals, He offered Himself. He was the final sacrifice for everyone's sins.
John 18:36	Jesus taught, "My kingdom is not of this world."
Matthew 20:25-28	Jesus came to serve, not to be served.
John 14:3	Jesus will return.

Synopsis

Jesus was crucified, and Jesus rose from the dead. He personally talked with Mary Magdalene. He appeared to other women. He spoke with two disciples on the Road to Emmaus. He met with the disciples one night in a closed room. He appeared again to show His wounds to Thomas at which time Thomas then believed.

Jesus appeared;

- To his disciples by the Sea of Galilee.
- To 500 on a mountain in Galilee.
- To James.
- Then with His disciples on the Mount of Olives.

Mark 16:19 "So then, after the Lord had spoken to them, He was received up into heaven, and sat down at the right hand of God."

Read the Bible Story: Acts 1:1-11

Ponder being sad and happy at the same time.

We have all had anxious moments with our children. We have been excited for them when they enter the different levels of school, when they go to camp or head off to college. While we are proud of their accomplishments, abilities, and how they are growing in true character, there is something fearful in the unknown each time they take on a new challenge. There is anxiety for both the parent and the child. It is a difficult state to explain; being happy and sad at the same time.

As the disciples watched Jesus ascend up into heaven, what must have been going through their hearts and minds. Were they experiencing a state of sadness and joy?

Let's Remember:

Jesus spent 40 days with disciples after He had risen from the dead.

- They had spent many years with Jesus.
- They went through the agony of His crucifixion.
- They experienced the joy of His resurrection.
- For 40 days they ate, spoke and saw His scars.

Talk It Over

Help your child to be filled with joy, knowing that Jesus Christ will return. Every day we should strive to please Him. We do not know when He will return. When He does, we do not want to be involved in something we would be ashamed of.

I John 2:28 “And now, little children, abide in Him, that when He appears, we may have confidence and not be ashamed before Him at His coming.

The ‘Beatitudes’

Beatitudes simply means “blessed”, “happy”.

God gave the Ten Commandments to Moses to instruct all of mankind about how we should conduct our lives. If we obey the Ten Commandments, we will be happy, and blessed.

Jesus Christ gave the Sermon on the Mount to his disciples. These instructions are just as important for us today as when Jesus gave them. The Sermon on the Mount has a number of beatitudes. They are called “beatitudes” because each statement begins with *blessed*. These are the attitudes we should strive to have in our life. If you are blessed by God, you are favored, and you will be *happy* when you conduct your life with the attitudes written in Matthew 5.

To be a truly happy person, we must believe in God the Father, and Jesus Christ. We should strive to obey God the Father and Jesus Christ as this will lead to happiness. Both the Ten Commandments and the Beatitudes teach us to obey God’s Words and we will be blessed and happy.

Memorize “Beatitudes”

Take a careful look at the eight beatitudes. Have your children memorize them.

Matthew 5:3-12

Poor In Spirit

- ***“Blessed are the poor in spirit, For theirs is the kingdom of heaven.”***

What does it mean to be poor? It means to be without. To be “poor in spirit” means that you have spiritual needs. We depend on God. We do not try to do things on our own. We ask for His help in all that we do.

Mourn

- ***“Blessed are those who mourn, For they shall be comforted.”***

Does this mean that when you cry “mourn” over spilled milk, you are blessed? Does it mean that when you mourn over failing a test you are blessed and you will be comforted? No! This sentence does not mean that. Jesus was speaking of mourning over the fact that you have sinned and you are sorry for that sin. You may want to discuss what sins your child may have committed. Such as lying. Jesus Christ is our comforter.

Meek

- ***“Blessed are the meek, For they shall inherit the earth.”***

What does meek mean? Does it mean that you are a weak individual? Meek means that you are not violent. You are patient, and gentle. There is strength in these characteristics. When you are meek, you are not focusing in on what others can do for you; you will concentrate being kind and gentle to others. In this way you will accept all the wonderful gifts God has to offer. Such as, family, food, sunshine, friends, good health, etc.

Hunger and Thirst

- ***“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, For they shall be filled.”***

What does righteousness mean? It means to do what is right. We all want to obey and do what is right. Certainly we have all experienced being very hungry and thirsty. We can hardly wait to have dinner at the end of the day or on a hot day we look forward to a tall glass of water which is assured to quench our thirst. Our physical bodies need food and water to survive. Our being, what makes us who we are, needs to be spiritually satisfied. The only way to satisfy our soul, is to eat and drink in the Word of God. By doing so, we will be satisfied, blessed and happy. Once we have tasted this happiness, we will desire to continue to come back for more.

Merciful

- ***“Blessed are the merciful, For they shall obtain mercy.”***

How do you show mercy to others? When someone deserves to be punished, you show mercy by not punishing. You help others that are in need. You do not make fun of or condemn others. Are you patient with your brother or your sister? When they break a special toy, do you forgive them? Why is it important to show mercy? Because Christ showed mercy to you, and I. Jesus Christ was punished for our sins. Jesus died on the cross. When you show mercy, chances are that when you need mercy, you will receive it.

Pure In Heart

- ***“Blessed are the pure in heart, For they shall see God.”***

Jesus wants us to have a clean heart. It is not enough to just cleanse our outer being. We must not be like the scribes and Pharisees of Jesus' day. (Matthew 23:25). We have to allow Jesus to cleanse our heart. We do this by praying and asking for His forgiveness. When you have a pure heart, God can work in your life.

Peacemakers

- ***“Blessed are the peacemakers, For they shall be called sons of God.”***

How can you be a peacemaker? You can obey your father and mother, which is the fifth commandment. Do not start a fight at school with a friend or with a member of your family. If someone wants to pick a fight with you, be calm and show kindness. It is not always easy to make peace. However, you will be happy if you strive to do what is right. (James 3:17,18).

**Persecuted for
Righteousness' sake**

- *“Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, For theirs is the kingdom of heaven.”*

When you strive to live a godly life, there will be persecution. Read 2 Timothy 3:12. This persecution could be avoided if you went along with the world’s way of thinking. However, you know that is not right.

It is not always easy to do what is right. It is not always easy to obey God. Do friends at school laugh at you because you obey God? Do they tease you for not taking God’s name in vain, or for obeying your parents, or because you keeping God’s Holy Days, and not Christmas or Easter, etc. Remember the example Jesus has given. Romans 8:18 “For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.”

Try to remember all the incredible blessings God has in store for you when He sets His kingdom up here on earth. The troubles you have today will only be for a short time, the life you will live with Jesus Christ will last forever. Keep your eyes focused on the goal.

Miracles of Jesus

The miracles of Jesus Christ are important.

Jesus Christ performed many miracles. In the previous lessons, we did cover a couple of those miracles. The miracles of Jesus Christ teach many lessons. Teaching our children the miracles of Jesus Christ will help them to understand the importance of believing that Jesus Christ is their Savior that was sent from God, in order that they may have eternal life.

John 20:30,31 - “And truly Jesus did many other signs in the presence of His disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name.”

Location of Miracle Stories:

Keeping this in mind, below is a list of some of the miracles of Jesus Christ along with where they can be found in the Bible. Take the time to share with your children the miracles of Jesus Christ.

- | | |
|---|--------------------------------|
| Mat. 8:2, Mark 1:40, Luke 5:12 | ▪ A Leper cleansed |
| Mat 8:5, Luke 7:1 | ▪ Centurion Servant Healed |
| Mat. 8:23, Mark 4:35, Luke 8:2 | ▪ Stilling Storm |
| Mat 8:28, Mark 5:1, Luke 8:26 | ▪ Herd of Swine with Demons |
| Mat 9:20, Mark 5:25, Luke 8:43 | ▪ Hemorrhaging Woman Healed |
| Matthew 9:27 | ▪ Two Blind Men Healed |
| Mat 12:9, Mark 3:1, Luke 6:6 | ▪ Withered Man’s Hand Healed |
| Mat 14:13, Mark 6:30, Luke 9:10, John 6:1 | ▪ Five Thousand Feed |
| Mat 17:14, Mark 9:17, Luke 9:38 | ▪ Epileptic Boy Healed |
| Matthew 17:24 | ▪ Fish’s Mouth with Temple Tax |
| Mark 7:31 | ▪ Deaf Mute Healed |
| John 11:43 | ▪ Lazarus Raised |

Location of Miracle Stories:

- | | |
|--|---|
| Matthew 8:14, Mark 1:30,
Luke 4:38 | ▪ Peter's Mother-in-Law Healed |
| Matthew 8:16, Mark 1:32,
Luke 4:40 | ▪ The Sick Healed at Evening Time |
| Matthew 9:2, Mark 2:3, Luke
5:18 | ▪ A Paralytic Healed |
| Mat. 9:18,23, Mark 5:22, 35,
Luke 8:40,49
Matthew 9:32 | ▪ The Ruler's Daughter Raised |
| | ▪ A Demon-possessed, Mute Man Cured |
| Matthew 12:22, Luke 11:14 | ▪ A Demon-possessed, Blind and Mute Man Cured |
| Mat. 14:25, Mark 6:48, John
6:19 | ▪ Walking on the Sea |
| Matthew 15:21, Mark 7:24 | ▪ Gentile Woman's Daughter Healed |
| Matthew 15:32, Mark 8:1 | ▪ Four Thousand Feed |
| Matthew 21:18, Mark 11:12 | ▪ The Withering Fig Tree |
| Mark 1:23, Luke 4:23 | ▪ Casting Out and Unclean Spirit |
| Mark 8:22 | ▪ A Blind Paralytic at Bethsaida Healed |
| Luke 4:30 | ▪ Escape from the Hostile Multitude |
| Luke 5:1 | ▪ Draught of Fish |
| Luke 7:11 | ▪ A Widow's Son at Nain was Raised |
| Luke 13:11 | ▪ The Infirm, Bent Woman Healed |
| Luke 14:1 | ▪ The Man with Dropsy Healed |
| Luke 17:11 | ▪ The Ten Lepers Cleansed |
| Luke 22:51 | ▪ A Servant's Ear Restored |
| John 2:1 | ▪ Turning Water into Wine |
| John 4:46 | ▪ The Nobleman's Son Healed of Fever |
| Luke 5:1 | ▪ An infirm Man at Bethesda Healed |
| Luke 9:1 | ▪ The Man Born Blind Healed |
| Luke 21:1 | ▪ Second Drought of Fish |

Parables of Jesus

Parable is a way of teaching truths using a short story. Many of Jesus' teachings were in parables.

The teachings of Jesus are full of joy. There is more to Jesus' teaching than just the Sermon on the Mount. The center and heart of the Bible is Jesus Christ.

Parables were used many times by Jesus when explaining the Kingdom of God. The rich must not think that they can buy their way into the Kingdom. Parables that Jesus told, showed God at work.

Here is a list of a few of the parables told by Jesus. Take the time to study these parables, research their meaning, pray for understanding, and then share the parables with your children.

Location of Parables:

- | | |
|---|---|
| Mat. 13:3-23, Mark 4:2-20,
Luke 8:4-15
Matthew 13:24-30 | ▪ Sower
▪ Tares |
| Mat. 13:31, 32, Mark 30-32,
Luke 13:18,19
Matthew 18:12-14, Luke
15:3-7
Matthew 22:2-14 | ▪ Mustard Seed
▪ Lost Sheep
▪ Wedding Feast |
| Matthew 25:1-13 | ▪ Wise and Foolish Virgins |
| Luke 10:30-37 | ▪ Good Samaritan |
| Luke 11:5-13 | ▪ Friend in Need |
| Luke 15:11-32 | ▪ Lost Son |
| Luke 16:1-13 | ▪ Unjust Steward |
| Luke 18:1-8 | ▪ Persistent Widow |
| Luke 18:9-14 | ▪ Tax Collector and Pharisee |
| Matthew 5:14-16 | ▪ Lamp Under a Basket |

Location of Parables:

Mat. 7:24-27, Luke 6:47-49	▪ A Wise Man and a Foolish Man
Mat. 9:16, Mark 2:21, Luke 5:36	▪ Unshrunk Cloth on Old Garment
Mat. 9:17, Mark 2:22, Luke 5:37,38	▪ New Wine in Old Wineskins
Mat 13:33, Luke 13:20,21	▪ Leaven
Matthew 13:44	▪ Hidden Treasure
Matthew 13:45, 46	▪ Pearl of Great Price
Matthew 13:47-50	▪ Dragnet
Matthew 18:23-35	▪ Unforgiving Servant
Matthew 20:1-16	▪ Workers in the Vineyard
Matthew 21:28-32	▪ Two Sons
Matthew 21:33-45, Mark 12:1-12, Luke 20:9-19	▪ Wicked Vinedressers
Matthew 24:32-44, Mark 13:28-32, Luke 21:29-33	▪ Fig Tree
Matthew 25:14-30	▪ Talents
Mark 4:26-29	▪ Growing Seed
Mark 13:33-37	▪ Absent Householder
Luke 7:41-43	▪ Creditor and Two Debtors
John 12:16-21	▪ Rich Fool
Luke 12:35-40	▪ Faithful Servant and Evil Servant
Luke 12:42-48	▪ Faithful and Wise Steward
Luke 13:6-9	▪ Barren Fig Tree
Luke 14:16-24	▪ Great Supper
Luke 14:25-35	▪ Building Tower, King Making War
Luke 15:8-10	▪ Lost Coin
Luke 16:19-31	▪ Rich Man and Lazarus
Luke 17:7-10	▪ Unprofitable Servants
Luke 19:11-27	▪ The Pounds