

Fourth Grade: Lesson 13

The Beatitudes

Lesson Objective:

These outcomes provide the opportunity to explore the Beatitudes in depth. Children should be invited to break open the Scriptures on the Beatitudes as well as assess the values of our culture to explore the way in which our society embraces or does not embrace the Beatitudes.

Learning Outcomes:

- Discuss how the Beatitudes are guidelines for a moral life (Matt 5-7; CCC 1965-1972, 17231724).
- Read the scripture passages containing the Beatitudes (Matt 5:1-12; Luke 6:20-23).
- Compare and contrast the Beatitudes and the values of modern-day society.

Materials Needed:

- Prayer space item, Bibles, pencils, crayons
- Copies needed: Beatitudes coloring sheet (optional), Lectio Divina printable guide (select one), 10 Commandments Cootie Catcher, Posterboard to make a class collage or the individual sheet of paper provided in the lesson, magazines/newspapers/catalogs that can be cut up for the collage (pictures that represent the Beatitudes and 10 Commandments).

As Students Enter Class:

- Student may enjoy coloring the sheet below while waiting for class to begin:



[Beatitudes Coloring Sheet](#)

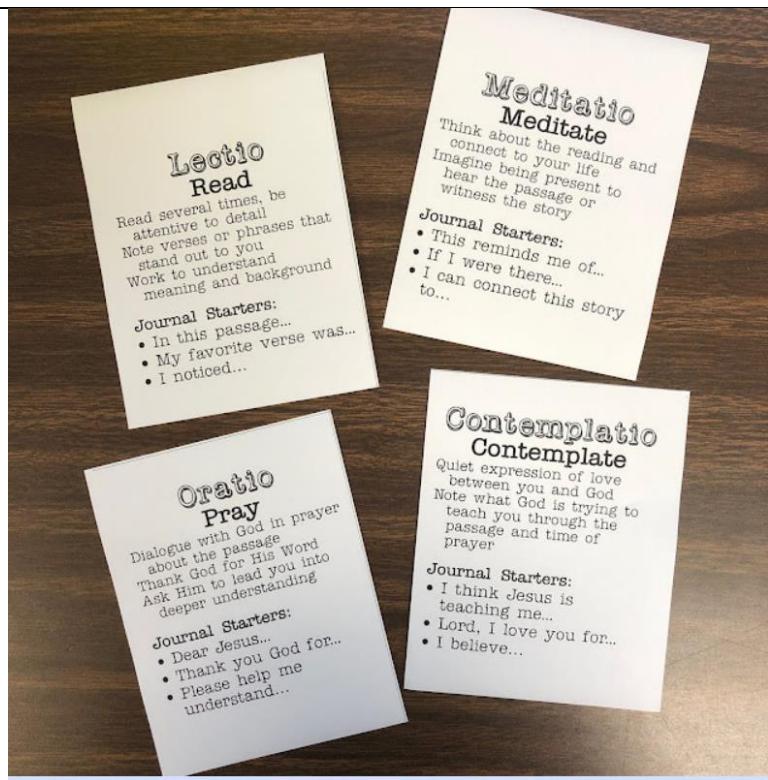
Beginning of Class:

- Gather around your prayer space and model a prayer of thanksgiving, thanking God for something you appreciate in your life; provide an opportunity for all students to state their own prayer of thanksgiving.

Lesson Order	Implementation Ideas
Lesson 13 Video	<p>This video is 2:25 in length.</p> <p>Highlights: Last week, we discussed living with good virtues. Living a virtuous life will help you become a saint!</p> <p>Knowing right from wrong can be hard. God has given us guidelines that help us choose to do good. Two of the most important guidelines in the Bible are the Ten Commandments and the Beatitudes.</p> <p>Matthew 5:1-12: The Beatitudes are read with pictures in the background.</p> <p>The Beatitudes*</p> <p>3“Blessed are the poor in spirit, * for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.</p> <p>4* Blessed are they who mourn, for they will be comforted.</p> <p>5* Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the land.</p> <p>6Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness, * for they will be satisfied.</p> <p>7Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.</p> <p>8* Blessed are the clean of heart, for they will see God.</p> <p>9Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.</p> <p>10Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, * for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.</p> <p>11Blessed are you when they insult you and persecute you and utter every kind of evil against you [falsely] because of me.</p> <p>12* Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven. Thus, they persecuted the prophets who were before you.</p>

	<p>The Similes of Salt and Light. *</p> <p>13 "You are the salt of the earth. But if salt loses its taste, with what can it be seasoned? It is no longer good for anything but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot. *</p> <p>14 You are the light of the world. A city set on a mountain cannot be hidden.</p> <p>15 Nor do they light a lamp and then put it under a bushel basket; it is set on a lampstand, where it gives light to all in the house.</p> <p>16 Just so, your light must shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your heavenly Father.</p>
Beatitudes Explained	<p>This video is 2:07 in length.</p> <p>Highlights: A priest narrates. The Beatitudes are the identity card of Christians. Blessed means happy and flourishing.</p> <p>What attitudes can we adopt from the Beatitudes? Be-attitude what does it mean to be a good Christian, to be a holy person, to be happy. The Beatitudes can help us with these thoughts and actions.</p> <p>Please refer to the page at the end of this lesson for a summary of what each line means.</p>
The Beatitudes Song	<p>This Christine in Action Video is 1:32 in length.</p> <p>The words appear while she sings.</p>
Memorize the Beatitudes with Hand Motions	<p>This video is 1:24 in length. A priest states all 8 Beatitudes, while using hand motions that will help with memorization.</p> <p>You may want to play this 2-3 times, depending on your student engagement. 😊</p>
Guided Meditation on the Beatitudes	<p>This video is 8:19 in length. It is very well done. It is not narrated, so students will need to read the words on the screen.</p>

	<p>It goes through each Beatitude, along with wonderful age-appropriate explanations of what each Beatitude means. Beautiful pictures will also help students with comprehension.</p> <p>Consider stopping at any time to discuss or ask questions. Also, encourage your students to raise their hands during the video if they want to ask a question or share something.</p>
Intro into the Activities	<p>This video is 1:31 in length.</p> <p>You may want to play the first 40 seconds for your students, since Carla reviews important information about how following the 10 Commandments and Beatitudes help us live holy lives and follow Jesus' plan for our lives.</p>
An Introduction to Lectio Divina <i>Please note: You will see 4 steps for Lectio Divina. However, some have added a fifth step, which is action.</i>	<p>This video is 2:45 in length.</p> <p>A young man narrates the video. Students are encouraged to all have a Bible and follow along to learn the 5 steps of Lectio Divina.</p> <p>Luke 17:5-6 are the verses that are focused on throughout this video.</p>



Prompts for Meditatio:

Step 2: Meditatio (Reflect)

What does this passage say to you?

What do you see?

What do you hear?

What do you think?

Prompts for Oratio:

Step 3: Oratio (Respond)

What does the word invite you to pray about?

What do you want to communicate to God?

What are you longing for in your relationship with God?

What secrets of your heart are ready to be expressed?

Prompt for Contemplatio:

Rest in God's Love.

Step 4: Contemplatio (Rest)

Step 5: Actio (Action)

How is God challenging you?

Is there a good thing God is calling you to do?

Is there something He wants you to stop doing?

What is the next step you need to take?

Printable Lectio Divina Guide

[Lectio Divina Guide](#)

Another printable option for you to choose from.

Pray With Lectio Divina

Lane Kids printable guide for using Lectio Divina.

10 Commandments and Beatitudes Collage

You can make one large class poster or students can work individually, it's up to you. You will want to have plenty of magazines/catalogs/newspapers on hand.

10 Commandments Cootie Catcher (Template and How to Video)	Encourage students to have some fun learning the 10 Commandments with this Cootie Catcher.
Closing Prayer	Gather around your prayer space and ask students to thank Jesus and something new they learned during your time together.

What are the Beatitudes teaching us? *

BEAUTITUDE	SIMPLE TERMS
Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of God.	Happy is the person who realizes that they need Jesus as a Savior, because we cannot save ourselves. Once we realize that we need God to help us, instead of trying to handle it on our own, we will be taken care of. We will also have the honor of having a place in Heaven.
Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.	If you are sad because of sad or bad things that have happened, you can still be content because Jesus will comfort you.
Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the Earth.	Happy is the person who is gentle and can control their emotions and actions, for they will be rewarded.
Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.	Happy are the people who want to do right and know God more than anything else, for God will give them what they need. This beatitude is not about the literal meaning of being hungry or thirsty.
Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.	Happy are the people who are kind and forgiving to other people, for they will be shown kindness and forgiveness, too.
Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.	It is easy for everyone to understand doing the right thing on the outside for others to see, but what Jesus is taking about here is changing the heart, the way we think and feel, on the inside. When we are doing the right things and for the right reasons, with a pure heart/intention, then we will see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.	Happy are the people who work to make peace and doing good for others. We need to stand up for peace and for what is right. By doing Jesus says we will be rewarded with the title, 'child of God.'
Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.	People who are hurt, suffer, or are treated badly because they have done right can be happy knowing they will have the kingdom of Heaven to look forward to.
Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you, and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.	You can be happy when people make fun of you, hurt you, or say things that are mean and wrong against you, because of your faith and love of Jesus. Be excited and happy because just like the other heroes of the Bible, your reward is going to be great when you get to Heaven.

*Source is Children's Ministry Deals Website