

# Lesson Plan

## Objectives

## Process

## Materials

### Invite, 10 minutes

**The Beatitudes** Page 121

-  **Psalm 33:12** Pray the opening prayer.
-  **Luke 11:27–28** Reflect prayerfully on the Word.
  - Discuss What Do You Wonder questions.

 **Optional Activity**  
Chapter Story:  
“Game Night”

### Discover, 35 minutes

**Jesus Brings God’s Blessing**  
Pages 122–123

- Describe how the Beatitudes guide them to show mercy and be a blessing for others
- Understand that *beatitude* means “blessing” or “happiness.” God put the desire for happiness inside each of us
- Define the Beatitudes as teachings of Jesus that show the way to happiness and tell how to live in God’s Kingdom now and always

**Be a Blessing** Pages 124–125

- Connect that because God first blessed us, everyone can be a blessing to others

- **Catholic Faith Words** mercy, Beatitudes, eternal life
- Explain that in the Gospel of Matthew is a summary of what Jesus taught about how to live by God’s Word.
-  **Matthew 5:3–10** Proclaim the Scripture.
  - Explain that God wants us to work with him as he builds his Kingdom.
  - ★ Match each Beatitude to its meaning.
  - **Share Your Faith Activity** Think of a question to ask Jesus.

- **Catholic Faith Words** peace
- Explain that God first blessed us and we can bless others.
- Read about Pope Saint John XXIII.
- **Connect Your Faith Activity** Describe how to be a blessing to others.

- pencils
- index cards

- pencils
- index cards or paper
- **Optional Activity**  
Being a Blessing
- Activity Master 7 (Page 121E)

### Live, 15 minutes

**Our Catholic Life** Pages 126–127

- Explain that an intercession is a prayer asking God for something for another person or community.
- ★ Write examples of when to pray an intercession.
- **People of Faith** Learn about Saint Yi Sung-hun.
- **Live Your Faith Activity** Write a prayer asking for help in living the Beatitudes.

**Prayer of Blessing** Page 128

- Choose a leader and four readers.
-  Rehearse “Lead Me, Lord.”
- Follow the order of prayer.

- pencils
- crayons or markers

 Download “Lead Me, Lord.”

**Family + Faith** Page 129

Point out that the Catholic Families page provides chapter highlights, information on how fourth graders understand faith concepts, and family prayer.

**Chapter Review** Page 130

 [aliveinchrist.osv.com](http://aliveinchrist.osv.com)

- Customize and Download Assessments
- Email Links to eAssessments
- Interactive Student Reviews

# The Beatitudes

## Preparation for the Session

**Turn to Page 129,**  
the Family + Faith page.

**Read** the **Consider This** feature. What thoughts or reactions do you have to the opening question?

In this chapter you will cover the following objectives:

- Describe how the Beatitudes guide us to show mercy and be a blessing to others
- Understand that *beatitude* means “blessing” or “happiness.” God put the desire for happiness inside each of us
- Define the Beatitudes as teachings of Jesus that show the way to happiness and tell how to live in God’s Kingdom now and always
- Connect that because God first blessed us, everyone can be a blessing to others

**Parents, Consider This:** *God has been blessing the world from the beginning. Because you and those in your family are baptized Christians, blessing is your work, too. Your actions, like those of Christ, can be a source of blessing to others. When you ask God’s blessing on a meal or on another person, you acknowledge that it is God who gives all gifts and makes them holy. In the many ways your family lives this understanding, that all of our gifts come from God, your family is living as followers of Christ.*

**Read** these other sections on the Family + Faith Page.

- *Your Child Learned.* This highlights some of the content of Sacred Scripture and Tradition in the lesson.
- *Children At This Age.* This will help you to understand how your child processes and learns at this developmental level.



**Let’s Sing:** These songs connect the session topics and can be downloaded from [aliveinchrist.osv.com](http://aliveinchrist.osv.com).

- Lead Me, Lord
- Love, Jesus, Love

## INVITE: Encountering God in His Word

**Turn to Page 121,**  
Insert Page Head

After gathering the supplies that you will need, find a quiet place to be with your child. This is a sacred time—a time when you will be present to each other and to the Lord. You may want to light a candle as you begin.



**Let Us Pray** Invite your child to make the Sign of the Cross. Read aloud the Psalm verse from the book. Help your child to respond.

**Explain** that not only are we blessed, but we can be a blessing to others.

**Say:** The Church teaches us that “every baptized person is called to be a ‘blessing’” (CCC 1669). Jesus reminds us that blessing comes from hearing and following God’s Word.



**Guide** your child through the Preparing for God’s Word Ritual you learned in the Introduction Session or play Track 1 of the *Songs of Scripture* CD.

- Proclaim God’s Word in the Parchment Paper box on the page.
- Maintain several moments of silence.
- Ask: What did you hear God say to you today?

**Invite** your child to respond and also share what you heard.

Now, look at the *What Do You Wonder?* box.

**Say:** The woman in the crowd was saying that Mary was blessed because she was the Mother of God. Jesus teaches us that we are all blessed when we listen to God’s Word and follow it.

**Invite** your child to respond to the questions. Ask what else they might wonder about healing.

## DISCOVER: Learning God’s Truth

**Turn to Page 122,**  
Jesus Brings God’s Blessing

**Read** aloud the opening question and paragraph.

**Tell** your child that God blesses those who care for others.

**Point** out the word **mercy** and its definition in the Catholic Faith Words box.



**Proclaim** the Scripture.

**Turn to Page 123,**  
The Beatitudes

**Have** your child silently read the first two paragraphs.

**Explain** that when we follow the Beatitudes, we are a blessing to others. We work with God as he builds his Kingdom.

**Point** out the highlighted words **Beatitudes** and **eternal life** and read their definitions in the Catholic Faith Words box (page 122).

**Review** the Beatitudes chart.



**Do** the gold-star activity.

**Turn to Page 124,**  
Be a Blessing

**Summarize** the introductory paragraph and introduce the biography.

**Tell** your child that Pope John XXIII was known for his simple ways and good nature. He wrote encyclicals that promoted social justice and peace. He convened the Second Vatican Council, although he did not live to see its completion. He was beatified by Blessed Pope John Paul II in 2000.

**Turn to Page 125,**  
Sharing Blessings

**Have** your child silently read the biography of Blessed Pope John XXIII.

**Have** your child read the text.

**Read** aloud the definition of the word **peace** in the Catholic Faith Words box.

## Activity

**Have** your child complete the Connect Your Faith activity.

**Parents, Consider This:** *When you bring peace to another person, you are doing the work of blessing that will bring you true happiness. We live in ways that bring peace to others when we focus more on understanding others than judging them. Think of someone your family might find irritating or difficult to love. Discuss how God might see this person with the eyes of compassion, mercy, and love. Might your family grow in understanding for this person? Peace grows by living peacefully, one relationship at a time.*

## LIVE: Living Our Faith

**Turn to Page 126,**  
Our Catholic Life

**Read** aloud the opening question and the two paragraphs.



**Do** the gold-star activity.

**Parents, Consider This:** *Everyone faces events that are beyond our control, which can breed uncertainty and even anxiety. In prayer we can share our problems and worries with God. The Holy Spirit can impart a sense of peace and help us deal with life's challenges and concerns. Encourage your family to pray, in their own words, about the worries they have as a way to put their trust in God and to allow God's Holy Spirit to fill their heart with peace.*

**Turn to Page 127,**  
People of Faith

**Read** the paragraph about Saint Yi Sung-hun.

- Share your reactions to the information.
- Talk about how God blesses you and how you can share those blessings with others.

## Activity

**Have** your child complete the Live Your Faith activity.

**Parents, Consider This:** *Jesus taught the Beatitudes in the Sermon on the Mount. In light of the Christian message, the Beatitudes reframe the blessings promised to the Israelites. The Beatitudes reflect the way that Jesus lived his life. Jesus' actions brought to the world the peace, love, and justice that God desires. How do you, as a family, live the Beatitudes? Consider focusing, as a family, on living the actions and attitudes exemplified in the Beatitudes.*

**Turn to Page 129,**  
Family + Faith Page and  
conclude with the Let's Pray  
prayer on this page.

**Parents, Consider This:** *It's important to form our children in the common language of prayer. We encourage you to pray the Hail Mary (see Page 321), during your night prayer this week.*



To access and send an eAssessment to your child, go to the Student and Family section of [aliveinchrist.osv.com](http://aliveinchrist.osv.com).