

## THE BEATITUDES MATTHEW 5:3-12

### MAKE A MOBILE AND PUT A DIFFERENT BEATITUDE (& the "saying"?) ON IT EACH WEEK

It could be a mobile of "bees" with each Beatitude on it, OR make each part the "gift" (puzzle piece, tissue, tongue depressor, paper cup, eraser, clear plastic heart, whistle, pipecleaner) you give each session.

What is an "attitude"? When someone has an "attitude," how does he or she act?

What do our attitudes say about what's going on inside of us?

How can your attitude make you more like Jesus? - A BE-attitude is a "Be Like Jesus" attitude.

### SESSION 1

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

#### I NEED YOU

(look up & reach up with both hands as if you are grabbing a life line rope, then pull down)

**What is an "attitude"?** When someone has an "attitude," how does he or she act? What do our attitudes say about what's going on inside of us? What is a Beatitude? A Beatitude is a "Be Like Jesus" attitude. Jesus promises us that if we have attitudes like Him, we'll be HAPPY.

How do we live a happy life? Will smiling do it? (Try lots of different kinds of laughs)

Song -If You're Happy and You Know It

Does laughing really make us happy? How about \_\_\_\_\_? Does that make you happy? Did you ever think about what you CAN'T do? Does that make you happy/sad?

Would it make you happy to know that there is someone who CAN do what you CAN'T? That's why Jesus says that we will be happy when we realize we need others. Most of all, we need Jesus.

"Happy All The Time"

<http://www.mygrandmatime.com/3019-2/shop-with-grandma/sing-together-series/>

"A Haugh Haugh Haughty Hah Hah Heart" - God's Way a Song a Day (Proverbs)

- c. 1991 by Perterson Press

"Be Humble" by Bob Wright c. 1998 Angel Creek Music

"Beatitude Attitude" by Bob Wright c. 1998 Angel Creek Music

BeeAttitudes (maranatha!)

**Game:** Make a chain of dominos, then tap one to have them all fall down. The dominos work together. They need each other. What happens if one is missing or isn't in the right place?

Play Mousetrap. How do all the parts work together? They need each other.

Play "Simon says" or "Follow the leader". We need to follow Jesus.

Play Beatitude Match and/or Beatitude Bingo <http://www.mygrandmatime.com/3019-2/visit-with-grandma/bible-fun-with-grandma/family-bible-activities/the-beatitudes/>

**Memory verse:** "Seek Ye First" (Sing the scripture reference rather than "Hallelu, Hallujah") and Beatitude #1. Daily have the older kids "discover" the cue/saying words by giving them

the cut out letters to make into words. (INEEDYOU- for the first session) The letters can be put up as the cue/saying words around each memory verse poster. Poster and cue/saying printouts are available at <http://www.mygrandmatime.com/3019-2/visit-with-grandma/bible-fun-with-grandma/family-bible-activities/the-beatitudes/>

Play Beatitude Match and/or Beatitude Bingo <http://www.mygrandmatime.com/3019-2/visit-with-grandma/bible-fun-with-grandma/family-bible-activities/the-beatitudes/>

**Snacks:** Any item, but kids must team up and feed each other. (Make sure they wash their hands and talk about clean etiquette before they start eating!) A lot of things in life are like our snack today. We really need each other.

**Craft:** Start work on a “happy face” plaque using glue, beans, and macaroni on wood or poster board. Spell “BE LIKE JESUS” or “BEATITUDES” (with macaroni?) when the face is done. This project could be more than 1 week project. It could be painted when dry.

**Object Lesson:** (Have 2 kids stand up as your examples.) \_\_\_\_\_ thinks he can do anything he wants to do. He is PROUD that he is the best person in his class, the oldest child, the best looking, etc. He makes sure everyone knows just how good HE is. He doesn’t think about the teacher that helps him learn, or his mother that helps keep his clothes clean, or the barber that keeps his hair cut looking good, etc.

\_\_\_\_\_ is a good student, and has a nice home, and is a really good big brother, etc. He is always ready with a THANK YOU for his teacher, his mother and father, his brothers and sisters, his barber, etc., because he knows that they help him to be the best he can be.

God calls this (2nd child’s) attitude- being “poor in spirit” or humble. He knows that he is not alone in life. He knows that other people and God help him to be his best. It’s a bit like this battery operated toy. Isn’t this a neat toy!!! See what it does!! Wouldn’t you like to play with this toy???? (Give it to a child, but you have taken the battery out.) Don’t you like the toy??? NO? Why not? You see, being proud and wonderful doesn’t get you anywhere because by ourselves we’re not much. But, when you realize that you NEED others and God, just like this toy NEEDS the batteries, then you are “poor in spirit” or humble.

(Go over memory verse poster and cue words/motions- look up & reach up with both hands as if you are grabbing a life line rope, then pull down.)

If you have extra time, have the kids make a list of people they need throughout their day.

**GIVE EVERYONE A PIECE OF A PUZZLE** - It is no good by itself. It NEEDS the other pieces.

**Take home idea:** Draw a picture of your hands here: God gave us our hands to reach out. We can reach out when we need help. We can reach out and give help. God made us to need and help each other.

**Suggested Family Time:** Talk about the things you can and can’t do alone? Realizing that we need each other is being “poor in spirit”. What are some things that only God can do for us? Realizing that we need and want God in our lives shows that we are “poor in spirit”.

Who had the best laugh in your family? When do they laugh? Practice making each other laugh.

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## SESSION 2

Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

### I'M SORRY

(wipe a tear from one eye, then the other)

Where do you like to go for comfort? Do you have a favorite chair? Do you curl up in your bed? Do you hug your teddy bear? Do you run to your mom or your dad? God uses many things to comfort us. He wants to wrap His loving arms around us. He listens as we talk to Him. He loves to hear the good things, but He doesn't get upset when we talk to Him about the bad things we have done.

"If We Turn" - SonLight Island c. Gospel Light 1998

"Sorry Song" - Kids on the Rock, more songs c. 1994

When we say we are sorry, we become friends again, both with people and with God.

**Game/activity:** Two opposing kids walk on a line toward each other. With neither leaving the line, they must pass each other. Anytime they touch/bump they must say "I'm Sorry". What would it be like in real life if people didn't say "I'm Sorry"? What would it be like if we couldn't say "I'm sorry" to God?

Play Beatitude Match and/or Beatitude Bingo <http://www.mygrandmatime.com/3019-2/visit-with-grandma/bible-fun-with-grandma/family-bible-activities/the-beatitudes/>

**MEMORY VERSE:** Review previous verses and add Beatitude #2. Daily have the older kids "discover" the cue/saying words by giving them the cut out letters to make into words. (INEEDYOU- for the first session) The letters can be put up as the cue words around each memory verse poster.

Play Beatitude Match and/or Beatitude Bingo <http://www.mygrandmatime.com/3019-2/visit-with-grandma/bible-fun-with-grandma/family-bible-activities/the-beatitudes/>

**Snack:** Pudding cup (make instant with them?) with a gummy worm. Kids eat the pudding, and when they find the worm they say "I'm sorry" before they eat it. Is our snack perfect? No! It has a worms in it! Are we perfect? No! We've all done some bad things that we need to say "I'm sorry" for!

**Craft:** Make a holder for a small pack of tissues. Why do we all need tissues?

**Object Lesson:** Pass out pencils (with no erasers) and paper. Have a "main" picture for the kids to copy. Ask them to do it perfectly. (That's why they don't have erasers!) Did they do it? Perfectly?!?!?! How can they "undo" their mistakes? If they say "I'm sorry" "I messed up", YOU can come along and either use your eraser or give them another piece of paper so they can start over. How did you feel when you made a mistake on the paper, knowing that you couldn't fix it? When we mess up, all we can do is say "I'm sorry". It's up to other people and God to forgive us (like YOU who are the one to use the eraser or give them another piece of paper).

When is it good to be sad? Jesus says that you should be sad when you've done something wrong. When we discover that we aren't perfect, we get sad. Jesus came as a baby and lived His life so we could see how God wants us to live our lives. We don't always live well, and that makes us sad. But we don't have to be sad! We just have to say "I'm sorry". Jesus died on the cross so that we could be forgiven when we aren't perfect. Isn't that a

comfort to know? (We can't comfort ourselves, it takes someone else to do that!) How do you like to be comforted? (Have a big snuggly blanket, a teddy bear, a hug?) After we say we're sorry, God comforts and forgives us, others comfort and forgive us too!

**Give everyone a small pack of tissue.** God has a big box of tissues! He will comfort and forgive us when we are sorry.

(Go over memory verse posters and cue words/motions- wipe a tear from one eye, then the other.)

**Suggested Family Time:** Talk about times when you have been really sad. When we are sad, we need each other. Sometimes we are sad because we have done something wrong. God uses that sadness to help us say "I'm sorry". When we say we're sorry, we can be close to each other again. When we say "I'm sorry" to God, He forgives us and comforts us.

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### SESSION 3

Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

#### AFTER YOU

(wave one arm as if inviting someone to go ahead of you)

How strong are you? (Have a contest to see who is physically the strongest.) There are many ways to be strong. Can you think of some different ways to be strong? Jesus was very strong, yet he let people spit on him, hit him, and kill him. And when He was dying, Jesus had nothing but gentle words to say, when He could have just said a word and destroyed everything. THAT'S MEEK!

“Love Your Neighbor” - Kids on the Rock, more songs c. 1994

“After You” - BeeAttitudes (maranatha!)

“Walkin’ In Your Shoes” - The Bee-Attitudes c. 1989 Maranatha! Music

“You Can Do It” - TUNED IN! Vol. 2 c. 1998

“If I Share With You” - Kids on the Rock vol. 1 c. 1995

**Game:** Provide the kids with ping pong balls and have them blow them with straws for a relay. What would life be like if we were all ping pong balls?

Play Beatitude Match and/or Beatitude Bingo <http://www.mygrandmatime.com/3019-2/visit-with-grandma/bible-fun-with-grandma/family-bible-activities/the-beatitudes/>

**MEMORY VERSE:** Review previous verses and add Beatitude #3. Daily have the older kids “discover” the cue/saying words by giving them the cut out letters to make into words. (INEEDYOU- for the first session) The letters can be put up as the cue words around each memory verse poster.

Play Beatitude Match and/or Beatitude Bingo <http://www.mygrandmatime.com/3019-2/visit-with-grandma/bible-fun-with-grandma/family-bible-activities/the-beatitudes/>

**Snack:** (inherit the EARTH) - Have kids make/assemble their own “earth”. Give each child a graham cracker. Let them decorate it with some chocolate pudding, some vanilla pudding with green food coloring in it, and some vanilla pudding with blue food coloring in it.

**Crafts:** Make a JOY (Jesus Others Yourself) mobile or picture with the memory verse on it. Use play dough to make the letters J O Y either by themselves or on a plaque. If you want to take more than one day for this craft, let the play dough dry and paint it the next session.

**Object Lesson:** Would you be happy if you were strong? How strong do you want to be? Jesus describes being strong as being able to let others go first. This is what He means by the word MEEK. It’s a little like this hair dryer and a ping pong ball. The ping pong ball is so light and the hair dryer is so strong that the ping pong ball can be pushed around all over the place. (Illustrate by pushing ball around the room.) If the ball and hairdryer were people, who do you think would get their way all the time? BUT, if the hair dryer is MEEK, it can use its strength to hold up and help the ping pong ball. (Turn the hair dryer straight up and place the ball in its stream. It should hold it in place.) Jesus wants us to use our strength to help others, not to get our own way. This is what MEEK means. When we are meek we have JOY. The letters in JOY stand for the way we should use our strength: first for Jesus, then for Others, and lastly for Yourself. (Make a big JesusOthersYourself poster for the kids to color on if there is extra

time, or have the younger kids make the letters JOY with their bodies. Go over what the letters stand for!)

(Go over memory verse posters and cue words/motions- wave one arm as if inviting someone to go ahead of you.)

**GIVE EVERYONE a tongue depressor with the letters JOY on it.** How do doctor's use these? What comes out of you that shows you have JOY?

**Suggested Family Time:** What are our strengths? How do we show how strong we are? Was Jesus powerful? Jesus describes being strong as thinking about others before thinking about yourself. Every day tell each other of one time that you let someone else go first, or when you've done something that isn't your "normal" job because you were helping someone else.

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## SESSION 4

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst after righteousness, for they will be filled.

### I WILL DO WHAT'S RIGHT

(start with thumb down, rotating it until it is up and raising it with emphasis)

Has anyone ever done this to you? (Show the "thumbs up" sign.) What does that mean? God says that He wants to give us the "thumbs up" sign. He loves it when we are like Jesus. How do we learn to be like Jesus?

What do you like to eat/drink when you are really hungry? We should be "hungry" to learn about God.

"Teach Me Your Ways" - Kids on the Rock, more songs c. Gospel Light 1994

"O Lord I Thank You" - The 2nd Sunday Sing-a-Long (Maranatha!)

"Do Right" - God's Way a Song a Day (Proverbs) - c. 1991 by Peterson Press

"Be Good" - God's Way a Song a Day (Proverbs) - c. 1991 by Peterson Press

"Do What It Says" (James 1:22-25) - The Bible In Your Brain Vol. 2 - c. 1996

God is the one who decides what is right and what is wrong. We will learn what is right and what is wrong as we listen to Him.

**Game:** Red Light/ Green Light. You really have to work hard and listen hard to do this game right!

&/OR "wrong, wrong, right" or "left, left, right" (duck, duck, goose)

Play Beatitude Match and/or Beatitude Bingo <http://www.mygrandmatime.com/3019-2/visit-with-grandma/bible-fun-with-grandma/family-bible-activities/the-beatitudes/>

**MEMORY VERSE:** Review previous verses and add Beatitude #4. Daily have the older kids "discover" the cue/saying words by giving them the cut out letters to make into words. (INEEDYOU- for the first session) The letters can be put up as the cue words around each memory verse poster.

Play Beatitude Match and/or Beatitude Bingo <http://www.mygrandmatime.com/3019-2/visit-with-grandma/bible-fun-with-grandma/family-bible-activities/the-beatitudes/>

**Snack:** Bread (assorted?) and water. In the "old" days, if you did something wrong you were put in prison and fed bread and water. Because we can choose to do what's right, we can add butter and/or jam.

**Craft:** Make a "Bible" placemat with the memory verses on it to remind us that God fills us up when we want/seek Him. (see the MV options list at <http://www.mygrandmatime.com/3019-2/visit-with-grandma/bible-fun-with-grandma/family-bible-activities/the-beatitudes/> )

**Object lesson:** Do you eat breakfast? Lunch? Dinner? Which one would you skip? Why? Why not? Not learning about God is like skipping a meal.

Wanting to do what's right is a little like this puzzle. Is it hard to put a puzzle together? Do I really want to have the finished picture? If I really want the finished picture, I'll work very hard to make sure I don't lose any pieces and that each piece goes in just the right spot. If I really don't care, I might take out a pair of scissors and change some pieces to fit where they're not supposed to go, or mix all my puzzles together and use any piece I want. Our lives

are like that! If we want to be like Jesus, we work hard at it. Jesus says that we should learn the Bible if we are to be like Him.

Now, some people don't go to the Bible themselves to learn what is right. Some people just listen to other people tell about the Bible. When you can't read, that's what you have to do, but when you can read, you should start reading the Bible yourself. Would you like me to take your vacation for you? You'd enjoy me telling you about it! Eat your food for you?-etc. That's what you're asking people to do if you don't read the Bible. Jesus says that when we WANT to do what's right so much that we'll learn His word, we will be filled up with joy, and we will know what is right.

Song- Do Right - God's Way a Song a Day (Proverbs) - c. 1991 by Peterson Press

Song- Be Good - God's Way a Song a Day (Proverbs) - c. 1991 by Peterson Press

(Go over memory verse posters and cue words/motions- start with thumb down, rotating it until it is up and raising it with emphasis.)

**GIVE EVERYONE a small paper cup.** If we really thirst after righteousness we'll read our Bibles.

**Suggested Family Time:** What is important to your family? Families work hard at: being together, learning new things, practicing good manners, keeping the house clean, etc. Do you work as hard at learning what is true and right? God's Word is the basis for truth. How can you work together to learn more of God's truth?

Make dinner together. As you eat, talk about each thing you made. Was it hard to make? Why? Why not? Do you like it? What did you learn by making it?

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## SESSION 5

Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.

### I FORGIVE YOU

(stand with arms out and feet together in the shape of a cross, then lower your humble head)  
Have two kids demonstrate an obstacle course where they go backwards, then reverse so they go forward through the obstacle course. Which is easier/faster? Holding a grudge is like going through the game backwards. You're looking the wrong direction and can't do a good job. If we forgive, we can go on to doing and thinking about other things. Forgiveness helps us look forwards.

"He Forgives Me" - Sing and Play (Vacation Bible Ship) c. 1996 Group

"If We Turn" - SonLight Island c. 1998

"Not Gonna Get Even" - Kids on the Rock vol. 2 c. (story of Joseph & his brothers)

"Be Kind" - Kids on the Rock, more songs c. 1994

**Game:** Grudge Tag - "It" (grudge monster) has a mad face while trying to tag others. When someone else is tagged, "It" says "I forgive you" and becomes happy, while the person tagged becomes the "grudge monster".

Play Beatitude Match and/or Beatitude Bingo <http://www.mygrandmatime.com/3019-2/visit-with-grandma/bible-fun-with-grandma/family-bible-activities/the-beatitudes/>

**MEMORY VERSE:** Review previous verses and add Beatitude #5. Daily have the older kids "discover" the cue/saying words by giving them the cut out letters to make into words. (INEEDYOU- for the first session) The letters can be put up as the cue words around each memory verse poster.

Play Beatitude Match and/or Beatitude Bingo <http://www.mygrandmatime.com/3019-2/visit-with-grandma/bible-fun-with-grandma/family-bible-activities/the-beatitudes/>

**Snack:** Cross shaped cookies to remind us of the hard thing that Jesus did to forgive us. Because He did so much to forgive us. He expects us to forgive others. Note the Lord's prayer! (Kids' decorate the cookies?)

**Craft:** Make a picture of a sunset to remind us that we should forgive quickly. "Do not let the sun go down..." Ephesians 4:16 (Grandma has an "e is for evening" DRAW WITH GRANDMA picture on her E,F,G,H dvd at: <http://www.mygrandmatime.com/3019-2/visit-with-grandma/learn-with-grandma/draw-with-grandma/>)

**Object Lesson:** Who is the happier person, the one who holds a grudge or the one who forgives his friend? To show mercy means to be kind to someone who doesn't deserve it. When we realize what Jesus has forgiven us, we find it easier to forgive others.

Explain the rules of the game: Give each of the kids 3 items (candies, tokens, whatever). Each child is also given a ball. At first have them toss the ball and catch it with two hands. If a child misses a ball, you get to take back one of their items. If kids aren't missing, change the game to a one-handed catch. When all the kids have lost at least one item, stop the game. "I was hoping this could be a fun game and you would all win. But none of you were perfect, and that's no fun. Since it's my game, I decide that you all win and I'm giving you back your items. (Give back their items.) How do you feel about me letting you win? Do you deserve to win? This game is like how God treats us. God wanted us to be perfect, or we would not be God's

friends. God sent Jesus to take our place, and so we can be God's friends, even though we aren't perfect. That's called being merciful and forgiving, and God wants us to treat others the same way. (Go over memory verse posters and cue words/motions- stand with arms out and feet together in the shape of a cross, then lower your humble head)

**GIVE EVERYONE an eraser.** God erases what we have done wrong, and He expects us to do that for others too!

**Suggested Family Time:** Go on a "stick" hunt and use string to make crosses out of your sticks. Is anybody mad? Why are you mad and who are you mad at? God wants us to treat people the way HE treats us.

Who are the merciful people that you know? Be thankful for them.

Who are the people in your life that hold grudges? How can you be merciful to those people?

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## SESSION 6

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

### I WILL TELL THE TRUTH

(put left hand out as if it was on the Bible and raise your right hand, just as if you were swearing to tell the truth in court)

What will it be like to see God? Will you be scared? Excited? Happy? Why? What do you think you'll do when you see God? Why? We're going to talk about why it is important to have a clean/pure heart when we see God.

"Nothing But The Truth" - God's Way a Song a Day (Proverbs) - c. 1991 by Peterson Press

"A Pure heart" (Psalm 51:1-4;10-12) - The Bible In Your Brain Vol. 2 - c.

"Let My Words"- Kids on the Rock, more songs c. 1994

"Tell Only What's True" Kids on the Rock, more songs c. 1994

**Game:** What do you see? (They shall SEE God - let's perfect our SEEING) Use a box or a tray with assorted items. After letting kids examine them, remove one item and have them guess what is missing.

Play Beatitude Match and/or Beatitude Bingo <http://www.mygrandmatime.com/3019-2/visit-with-grandma/bible-fun-with-grandma/family-bible-activities/the-beatitudes/>

**MEMORY VERSE:** Review previous verses and add Beatitude #6. Daily have the older kids "discover" the cue/saying words by giving them the cut out letters to make into words. (INEEDYOU- for the first session) The letters can be put up as the cue words around each memory verse poster.

Play Beatitude Match and/or Beatitude Bingo <http://www.mygrandmatime.com/3019-2/visit-with-grandma/bible-fun-with-grandma/family-bible-activities/the-beatitudes/>

**Snack:** Finger gelatin (and crackers or cookies??) Can we see through it? If it was pure and clean you could, but this is colored. Jesus wants us to be clear and clean so He can see through us!

**Craft:** Make a pair of glasses with pipe cleaners. Will they help us see God clearly?

**Object Lesson:** Have two volunteers, one with a clean face and one with a dirty face. (Who is the happy person.... the one who has to hide what he thinks and feels, or the one who can let others know what he thinks and feels?)

Can we hide our dirty faces? They are out in the open where everyone can see. If we wear a mask, does that help? (Mask or paper bag with holes in it) Would you like to wear a mask always? Our faces are out in the open where everyone can see them, but what about our hearts? Can we have a dirty heart without letting people know? We can maybe, for a while, but what's in our heart usually comes out in our attitudes. If we have a dirty heart it is hard to hide it, because our words and our actions will show what's in our hearts. (Wash cloth & soap) The only way to be sure we can let our face show all the time is to keep it clean. The only way to keep our hearts clean and pure is to tell the truth. We need to tell the truth to God so He can forgive us. We need to tell the truth to others so that we don't have to wear a mask. People can see that we are clean and shiny on the inside when we tell the truth on the outside.

(Go over memory verse posters and cue words/motions- put left hand out as if it was on the Bible and raise your right hand, just as if you were swearing to tell the truth in court)

**GIVE EVERYONE a clear plastic heart.**

**Suggested Family Time:**

We like to watch others when they are not looking. What is it like to have God see us? Sometimes people see us doing good things, and other times we get caught doing bad things. We can't hide things from God like we try to do with people. God knows us! If we have a pure heart, we won't feel like trying to hide from God. We can only have a pure heart by telling ourselves, God, and others the truth.

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## SESSION 7

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God.

### COOL IT

(take a deep breath and use both hands to “smooth” things out)

What does the word “cool” mean? (cold, fashionable, okay, etc.) God wants things to be “okay” between people and between us and God. How can we help each other be “cool”?

“Walkin’ in Your Shoes” - BeeAttitudes (maranatha!)

“Oh How Happy We’ll Be” - God’s Way a Song a Day (Psalms)- c. 1992 Brentwood

“Keep Cool” - God’s Way a Song a Day (Proverbs) - c. 1991 by Perterson Press

“Psalm 34:12-14” - TUNED IN! Vol. 2 c. 1998

“Peaceful People” - TUNED IN! Vol. 2 c. 1998

“Get Along Song” - Sontown Family Celebration c. 1995 Gospel Light

**Game:** Freeze tag - When the “peacemaker” touches you, you “cool it” or freeze, unless someone “bugs” you by touching you. Then you unfreeze again. Isn’t that like life!

Play Beatitude Match and/or Beatitude Bingo <http://www.mygrandmatime.com/3019-2/visit-with-grandma/bible-fun-with-grandma/family-bible-activities/the-beatitudes/>

**MEMORY VERSE:** Review previous verses and add Beatitude #7. Daily have the older kids “discover” the cue/saying words by giving them the cut out letters to make into words. (INEEDYOU- for the first session) The letters can be put up as the cue words around each memory verse poster.

Play Beatitude Match and/or Beatitude Bingo <http://www.mygrandmatime.com/3019-2/visit-with-grandma/bible-fun-with-grandma/family-bible-activities/the-beatitudes/>

**Snacks:** Be “Cool as a Cucumber” with veggie snacks and dips.

**Craft/Gift:** Give each child a “peace” whistle and have them make a “chain” to hang it around their neck. When do they need to blow their whistle? How do they help calm people after they get their attention?

**Object Lesson:** Who is happier... the person who has happy friends or the person whose friends are fighting?

What do you fight about? How can you stop fighting? (Make a bottle fountain from pg. 7 of the weather book to show what happens to us when we are “hot” and what happens when we “cool it”. How to stop spouting off?? Get out of hot water! Cool down and think!)

God loves those who make peace and is proud to call them His sons and daughters. Wouldn’t it be great to hear God say, “That’s MY child

(Go over memory verse posters and cue words/motions- take a deep breath and use both hands to “smooth” things out)

**Suggested Family Time:** What does peace feel like? Isn’t it great to know that you are home and loved and cared for? Can you imagine what heaven will be like? That’s when we will REALLY have “peace”. (Revelations 21:4)

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## SESSION 8

Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

### IT'S OK, I'VE GOT JESUS

(circle thumb and first finger with other 3 fingers up – the “okay” sign, then point to heaven)  
Mirror Image - Pair two kids together. One acts, the other copies. Use this as an illustration of how we can become like Jesus. We are learning how to BE LIKE JESUS. Did everything always go well for Jesus? Did everyone always love Him? Just like Jesus, we can continue to do the right thing because we know we are God's children.

“In All These Things” (Romans 8:35,37-39) - The Bible In Your Brain Vol. 1 - c. 1997

“Psalm 56:3,4” - TUNED IN! Vol. 2 c. 1998

“Do Not Be Afraid” - Sonrise Balloon Adventure c. 1997

“Be Strong and Courageous!” - Sonrise Balloon Adventure c. 1997

**GIVE EVERYONE a pipe cleaner.** We can bend when bad things happen, without breaking because we've got Jesus' strength and His promises.

**Game:** Set up a relay race. The team that wins has to wear bags (with eye holes) over their heads for a rematch. If you have time for another rematch, the team who won the 2nd time has to wear the bags AND have their hands tied together for another rematch. For yet another rematch, add shoeboxes on the feet of the “winning team”. Sometimes life is like this. The better we do, the more trouble we get in. Jesus said this would happen. We are to keep going and trust in His strength and promises.

Play Beatitude Match and/or Beatitude Bingo <http://www.mygrandmatime.com/3019-2/visit-with-grandma/bible-fun-with-grandma/family-bible-activities/the-beatitudes/>

**MEMORY VERSE:** Review previous verses and add Beatitude #8. Daily have the older kids “discover” the cue/saying words by giving them the cut out letters to make into words. (INEEDYOU- for the first session) The letters can be put up as the cue words around each memory verse poster.

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**Snacks:** Have kids help you assemble a “house” of graham crackers and frosting. Talk about how this house is different from the house in heaven that Jesus has ready for us. Have the kids take apart the house and eat it. (John 14:1-3)

**Craft:** Make a puppet out of pipecleaners. We can be flexible because God made us and God loves us. Learn how to make pipecleaners puppets with Grandma at:

<http://www.mygrandmatime.com/3019-2/visit-with-grandma/sew-with-grandma-2/pipe-cleaner-puppets/>

**Object Lesson:** Freeze pennies in ice cubes (at least 1 per child-Bring extra ice cubes and keep them cold until needed.) In a bucket or shallow pool of cold water, and add pennied ice cubes as needed for each group. Have kids volunteer to remove their shoes to get an ice cube out with their feet.

Would you like it better if I just gave you a dry warm penny? Life will not always be easy and doesn't always come the way we want it to. Just look at Jesus' life.... He healed people and

told them about God and was their friend. There were still people who didn't like Him and wanted to hurt Him. But, we can still be happy in the midst of everything that goes wrong, because we know that Jesus loves us and that we will live forever in heaven with Him. You let your feet get really cold in order to get a penny. What would you do in order to get to heaven?

Try to imagine that you have just saved someone's life. Instead of getting an award, you are put in jail. That's the way the world treats us sometimes. Jesus tells us that if obey Him, even though we are ridiculed and made fun of or put in jail, we WILL get a reward, HEAVEN. The Bible tells us that God has a book with names written in it. (Use phone book, Who's Who, Encyclopedia, etc. to illustrate such books...) God's book is different in that the names of those who are going to heaven are in it. THAT's the important thing in our lives, to get our names in God's book. That's more important than how other people treat us. (Go over memory verse posters and cue words/motions- circle thumb and first finger with other 3 fingers up – the "okay" sign, then point to heaven.)

**Suggested Family Time:** Is life FAIR? How do you react when someone or something gets in your way? How can we be happy when life is not fair? How can we or should we react when life isn't fair?

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