

PV TEENS

THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT

MATTHEW 5-7

Thank you

Thank you for choosing to study scripture with your family. Many parents desire to read scripture with their teen, and there is no better place to start than the sermon that turned the world on its head.

Choose a challenge: Pick one (or all) of these challenges to complete over the course of the month:

- 1. Read Matthew 5-7 with your family on top of Pinnacle (or any mountain).*
- 2. Memorize a passage in the sermon (the beatitudes, loving enemies, etc.)*
- 3. Scripture surprise! It is always great to find \$20 in a coat pocket. Write word for word 2-3 passages from the sermon and hide them in places where they won't be found for a while. It will be a reminder of this study for months to come.*

Success in this endeavor does not depend on you completing challenges. You succeed by reading God's word with your family.

HOME MADE FAITH
PVTEENS

The Beatitudes

Pray that God will bless you during this discussion.

Read Matthew 5:1-12

DISCUSS: Which of the beatitudes sticks out to you the most? Why?

ACTIVITY | WHAT MAKES YOU HAPPY

Set a timer for 2 minutes. Each person must run and find something that makes them happy and bring it back.

DISCUSS: What about this object makes you happy? How do you know when you are happy?

Does this object make you feel blessed?



QUESTIONS:

Very few of these qualities are desirable: *poor in spirit, mournfulness, hungry, etc.* What about these could possibly make you 'supremely blest'?

How would you explain the difference in the blessedness that comes from the beatitudes and the happiness your objects give you?

RESOURCE: Choose a beatitude that interests you. [This sermon](#) (scan QR code to view) discusses each beatitude. Listen to the part of the sermon that discusses the one you chose. There are also thorough notes on each beatitude you can read through.

CHALLENGE: Read the entire Sermon on the Mount twice per week for the next month (you'll read it a total of eight times)!

*"Blessed" means
supremely blest,
fortunate, or well-
off*

You've heard that it was said...

Pray that God will bless you during this discussion.

Read Matthew 5: 13-48

ACTIVITY |

Salt shaker candle (scan QR code below for instructions)

SALTLESS SUPPER |

Cook a family favorite for dinner while discussing this devotional. **DO NOT USE SALT** (if any of your mixes\ spices contains salt, do not use it either).

DISCUSS: We often discuss how we are the light of the world, but rarely do we discuss how we are the salt of the earth. What does salt do to your food? What do you think it means that we are the "salt of the earth"?

SCAN ME



You have heard it said...

DISCUSS: Jesus's ethical standards stands in stark contrast with the world's. What does the world tell you about anger, lust, marriage, your word, and revenge?

THINK: We often wish for God to rid the world of murder, human trafficking, ugly divorces, etc. Rarely, do we wish God would get rid of our anger, lust, or dishonesty. We want God to rid the terrible things without wanting him to rid the seeds of those things in our hearts. However, getting rid of those things would make earth look much more like heaven.

QUESTIONS: If you were to pursue the standard Jesus sets in chapter 5, how would your life look different? If the church actively pursued this, how would the world look different? Of the topics mentioned, (anger, lust, divorce, oaths, revenge/resentment, loving enemies), which is most difficult for you? Why?

CHALLENGE: Rate yourself in the category that is most challenging (1 is the best, 10 is the worst). What would going one step in the right direction require you to do this week? **DO IT!**

"But I tell you..."

The Narrow Way and the Good Fruit

Read Matthew 6-7:20

ACTIVITY | TOTAL DESTRUCTION

Time each person to see who completes the slide puzzle the fastest. Once the puzzles are complete time how quickly each person can completely mix up the pieces again.

READ & DISCUSS | Matt 7:13-14, how does this verse relate to the activity?

THOUGHT | It takes much more discipline/intentionality to put things in order than to destroy them. How does this apply to the passages in this section of scripture?



Bearing Good Fruit

WRITE | Pretend that you know someone who has modeled the life Jesus tells about in chapters 6 and 7. Write a eulogy for that person, noting what kind of fruit they would bear by a life lived this way.

COMPARE | In what ways would your eulogy be similar? Be different? Explain.

BRAINSTORM | Good and bad trees both bear fruit, just different kinds. List what fruit would be produced in a life that Jesus described here. What fruit would be produced by living counter to what Jesus said?

CHALLENGE | Look at the list of good fruit you just made with your family. Choose someone who exhibits that fruit and text or call them to discuss how they are able to accomplish that (how to have peace when so many people are anxious, how to perform for God, not for man, etc.).

*"You will recognize
them by their fruit."*

Building on a Firm Foundation

Read the whole sermon but read Matthew 7:15-29 twice.

PRAY | Spend time in prayer that God will help guide you through this discussion

ACTIVITY | BUILD YOUR HOUSE

Use all the Jenga blocks provided to build a structure on a table, take a photo and try to recreate the same structure on a pillow. Which was more stable, why? Test out other foundations as well (carpet, a folded towel, whatever you want!).



When the storm comes

QUESTION | What foundations do people build their lives on other than Jesus? How can that fail them?

PERSONAL STORIES | Jesus says, "The rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew..." He did not say they *may* come, or they *could* come. The storms came, they always do. What storms have you experienced in your life, and how have you seen the wisdom from the sermon on the mount help? Have you seen the effects storms have on people who haven't benefitted from Jesus's wisdom?

REMEMBER: Each person take a few of the Jenga blocks used for the first activity. Choose a few verses from the Sermon on the Mount that you need to be reminded of and write them out on the block. Keep this in your room where you will see it frequently and be reminded of the wisdom Jesus gives us.



"You will recognize them by their fruit."