

Department: Juniors

Unit 1: The Beatitudes (part 1)

Lesson 4: Desirous and Blessed

Lesson Concept: Seeking Righteousness

Instructional Objectives:

The child will recite from memory the fourth Beatitude with no more than two helps.

The child will explain the fourth Beatitude.

The child will give a personal example of application of the fourth Beatitude.

Materials:

Opening Activities:

As the Deer

Read Your Bible, Pray Every Day

Learning to Grow, Grow, Grow

Memory Verse Activity: Matthew 5:6

Read the verse in unison. The phrase "Which do hunger and thirst after righteousness..." as well as the word "filled," will be explained. The verse will be read in unison again. The children will be split into two groups, and one group will say the beginning part of the verse while the second will say the latter. The verse will be read in its entirety in unison again. The children will be split into two groups. Each group will be given the verse written out on index cards and asked to arrange the words in the correct order, trying to do so before the other team. The team who arranges the cards in the correct order first, wins. The verse will be read in unison.

Sequence of Activities:

Activate Prior Knowledge—

The children will be asked questions about King David. For example, what was his occupation as a boy, who did he miraculously defeat with a sling, what phrase is often used to describe him, why was he chosen king. The children will provide the information they know about King David.

Instruction:

I. David's Testimony (II Samuel 12:1-13)

- a. David was a man after God's own heart.
- b. David loved the Lord and was chosen by God to be the king of Israel.
- c. David trusted in God to take care of his enemies (i.e. lions, Goliath).

II. David's Sin

- a. David had sinned in adultery with Bathsheba.
- b. David had Uriah killed to cover his sin.
- c. Because of his sin, David was punished.

III. David's Discovery

- a. Nathan the prophet was sent by God to tell convict David of his sin.
- b. Nathan told David a story about a poor man whose only sheep was stolen by a rich man who did not need his sheep.
- c. David became angry with this rich man for his cruel sin.
- d. Nathan told David that he was the man, that he had done the same thing to Uriah.
- e. Nathan showed David his sin.

IV. David's Repentance

- a. David feels sorry for his sin and repents (Ps. 51).
- b. David realizes that if he is to be blessed by God, he must seek after righteousness.

c. David writes many Psalms about seeking after God's holiness.

1) Ps. 18:24 "Therefore hath the LORD recompensed me according to my righteousness, according to the cleanness of my hands in his eyesight.

2) Ps. 11:17 "For the righteous LORD loveth righteousness; his countenance doth behold the upright.

3) Ps. 45:7a "Thou lovest righteousness, and hatest wickedness..."

4) Ps. 106:3 "Blessed are they that keep judgement, and he that doeth righteousness at all times."

Lesson Importance and Application:

The teacher will explain that the students must live righteous lives if they too want to be blessed of God as David was. The children will be given specific examples of how they can live righteously. They can obey their parents immediately, do things with respect, put others first, share things with others.

Lesson Closure:

The students will be asked if they can think of any other ways to show a hungering for righteous living. The students will be asked if a righteous life is rewarding or belaboring. The students will quote the fourth Beatitude again. The students will be shown how David exemplified this Beatitude.

Application Activity:

The children will be play Safe Sheep
Each child will be placed on one of two teams. The teams will be asked questions concerning the lesson and verse. If these are answered correctly, the child will be allowed to uncover one of the sheep that are place face down on the board, and then place that sheep in his fold. Each sheep will either have a point amount on the side face down or will be a sheep that is stolen. The team with the most points at the end of the game wins. The children will be reviewing the story Nathan told David, and the students will

be asked how this story relates, and what they must do to receive God's blessings, according to Matthew 5:6.

Evaluation:

The child will recite from memory the fourth Beatitude from memory with not more than two helps.

The child will explain the fourth Beatitude.

The child will give a personal example of application of the fourth Beatitude.