



# HEY PARENTS!

Here's what we're learning in the month of January

## THE BEATITUDES (MATTHEW 5:1-12)

January 02

**Brite Idea:** Jesus teaches us about God's kingdom.

**Memory Verse:** Matthew 6:33 ESV

*But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.*

Kids will hear the Bible story when Jesus teaches us about His kingdom from the Sermon on the Mount. Kids will learn from the Bible story that God is King and His kingdom is available to everyone. We have the hope and promise of God's kingdom now and forever.

## SALT AND LIGHT (MATTHEW 5:1-2, 13-16)

January 09

**Brite Idea:** Jesus teaches us how to show God's love to others.

**Memory Verse:** Matthew 5:16 ESV

*In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.*

Kids will hear the Bible story of Jesus teaching about salt and light. Kids will learn from the Bible story what it means when God changes our lives, and we begin to live and love like Jesus did.

## JESUS TEACHES ON PRAYER (MATTHEW 5:1-2, 6:5-13)

January 16

**Brite Idea:** Jesus teaches us how to talk with God.

**Memory Verse:** Matthew 6:9-10 ESV

*Pray then like this: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.*

Kids will hear when Jesus teaches us how to talk with God. Kids will learn from the Bible story that God loves when we talk to Him. We can talk to God about anything. Prayer is important because it helps us build our relationship with God and shows us that we need Him.

## JESUS TEACHES ON WORRY (MATTHEW 5:1-2, 6:25-34)

January 23

**Brite Idea:** Jesus teaches us how God provides.

**Memory Verse:** Philippians 4:19 ESV

*And my God will supply every need of yours according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus.*

Kids will hear the Bible story when Jesus teaches on worry. Kids will learn from the Bible story that God cares about the needs of those He created and provides for them because of His great love.

## BUILDING ON THE ROCK (MATTHEW 5:1-2, 7:24-29)

January 30

**Brite Idea:** Jesus teaches us to practice doing what He says.

**Memory Verse:** Matthew 7:24 ESV

*Everyone then who hears these words of Mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock.*

Kids will hear the Bible story about Jesus' teaching about the importance of practicing and doing what He says. Kids will learn from the Bible story that when we practice what Jesus says to do, we build our relationship with Him and can withstand the hard times in our lives.

## ENCOURAGEMENT FOR PARENTS:

In the book of Matthew, we learn Jesus prayed for the kingdom of God to come to earth. He taught powerful descriptions of how life looks in this kingdom. He brought disciples alongside to help bring it forth. Do those who follow Jesus today have a part in this mission? Absolutely! Why? Putting God first combined with Christ-like attitudes influences everyone to move toward Him. **Is God's kingdom reflected in your home or in your life?** As a parent, your greatest contribution to moving this mission forward starts there.

## DISCIPLESHIP CONVERSATION STARTERS:

### THE BEATITUDES (MATTHEW 5:1-12)

1. Which is easier for you to trust God: When you need to decide about something you know about or when you're confused/unsure about something? Why?
2. When we go to God first, we show we trust Him. Share a time you went to God first about a situation. How did God show up for you?
3. How is God using you and your family to help others know and trust Him?

### SALT AND LIGHT (MATTHEW 5:1-2, 13-16)

1. What are ways others would know you love Jesus without you telling them?
2. Is there anyone you struggle to show God's love to? Why? How could remembering Jesus' love for you help change your heart and actions toward this person?
3. Who have you noticed this week having a rough time? What did you do to show them Jesus' love? How did your words and actions help them move closer to God?

### JESUS TEACHES ON PRAYER (MATTHEW 5:1-2, 6:5-13)

1. What prayers are you specifically praying for your friends, family, school, and world to know God the way you do? Why is this important?
2. Have you ever thought there are prayers that feel "too big" or "too selfish" for you to pray? Do you think God feels the same? Why or why not?
3. What prayer is God answering in your life right now? What are you finding hard to talk with God about?

### JESUS TEACHES ON WORRY (MATTHEW 5:1-2, 6:25-34)

1. Share something that you are worried about or something that had made you upset recently. Have you talked with God about that? Why or why not?
2. What would you want God to change? What would you need God to change? How is what you want different than what you need in this situation?
3. Do you believe and trust that God will provide what is best for you? Why or why not?

### BUILDING ON THE ROCK (MATTHEW 5:1-2, 7:24-29)

1. What problems are you facing? Do you think everyone has problems? Why or why not?
2. What does Jesus tell us about worrying when we have problems? How does worrying stop us from helping or loving others?
3. Which way helps you not to worry when problems come: prayer, Bible reading, worship, or thanking God? Which might you try? How would these ways remind you God loves you and can be trusted?