

Lessons for the Leader

Read Matthew 5:1-12. Notice the word *blessed* is used in each of the verses 3-11. The Greek word translated as *blessed* refers to "God's approval of and blessing on His people." Being blessed is not dependent on circumstances or emotions. Rather, a person is blessed from God's perspective because of her relationship with God. How is your relationship with God? Do you "feel" blessed?

- "Poor in spirit"—individuals who know they can do nothing to help their spiritual condition. They are humble before God and rely on God.
- "Those who mourn"—individuals who feel sorrow for sin and repent.
- "The meek"—those who are gentle in thoughts and actions.
- "Hunger and thirst"—those wanting to see God overcome evil. These people want what is right.
- "Merciful"—individuals who display forgiveness and kindness because they realize their own sinful natures. Recognizing the mercy and kindness God showed them, they are not condemning of others.
- "Pure in heart"—a daily process of seeking God and following His commands.
- "Peacemakers"—those who love others and try to live peacefully with everyone.
- "Persecuted"—individuals who stand up for what is right. Jesus made it clear that those who live godly lives will be persecuted in this world. However, Jesus also made it clear that great rewards await these individuals in heaven.
- Consider your life. How does your life compare to what God desires of you? Think about the children in your ministry. What do they need to know about their attitudes? What do they need to know about following God's plan for their lives?

What do these symbols mean?

Application Activities Format:

- 1→** Follow the numbers with arrows for a 30-minute, large group plus 20-minute Application Activities format.

Large Group Format:

- 1** Follow all the numbers for a 45- to 60-minute large group only format.



Attitude Check

Focus Passage: Matthew 5:1-12

Key Bible Verse: Philippians 2:5

Life Application:

I can develop the attitudes God wants me to have.

Session at a Glance

Introduction to Worship (8 minutes)

- Greet the Children
- Play "Attitudes Matter"

Worship (30 minutes/45 minutes)

- Sing "Whoa!"
- Sing "Me Without You"
- Discuss Worship
- Sing "All for You"/Pray/Receive Offering
- Use Worship Guides
- Tell the Bible Story
- Review the Bible Story
- Learn the Key Bible Verse
- Apply the Key Bible Verse
- Show "This Is My Story: Taylor A."
- Video #2
- Sing "One"
- Pray

Application Activities (20 minutes)

Wrap-Up (10 minutes)

Introduction to Worship

1 → Greet the Children

Pull It Together

Print and copy "It's Not About Me—Parent Connection" (CD) (1 copy per child).

- Distribute "It's Not About Me—Parent Connection" as parents arrive.

2 → Play "Attitudes Matter"

Pull It Together

Stopwatch

- Form two teams.
- Read aloud the following situations, one at a time.
 - Your mom tells you she doesn't have money for you to go to the movies with friends this weekend.
 - Your elderly neighbor yells at you when your basketball rolls into his yard.
 - Your best friend invited another friend to spend the night with her instead of you.
 - You discover your brother has accidentally reset the video game you have been playing.
- Assign one team to think of a positive response to the situation and the other team to respond in a negative way.
- Allow 60 seconds, then call on teams to share their responses with the group.
- Continue play as time permits, alternating positive and negative team assignments.
- Ask: "What does the word *attitude* mean? ("a feeling or emotion we have about something") Do you think the way we respond to situations matters? Why or why not?"
- Say: "Today we're going to learn about some of the attitudes God wants us to have."

Worship

3 → Sing "Whoa!" DVD (2 minutes)

4 Sing "Me Without You" (DVD, 3 minutes)

5 → Discuss Worship (3 minutes)

Pull It Together

Worship Guides, pencils

- Bookmark 1 or more Bibles before the session.

- State: "*Worship* means 'to focus on God; to show love, honor, and praise to God.' "
- Distribute Worship Guides and pencils.
- Guide the girls and boys to find the definition of worship on their Worship Guides.
- Repeat: "*Worship* means 'to focus on God; to show love, honor, and praise to God.' Circle the word *God* because God is our focus."
- Ask: "How can having a good attitude be worship?"
- Say: "God is perfect—He does not do anything wrong. God is wise—He knows and understands everything. God is almighty—He has all the power and control over His creation. He is an awesome God. He is our God!"

6 → Sing "All for You" (DVD, 3 minutes)/Pray/Receive Offering

7 → Use Worship Guides (2 minutes)

- Lead the children to complete "Word Game" on their Worship Guides to learn the word *blessed*.
- Say: "*Blessed* means 'made happy because of something God has done.' God chooses to reward Christians. These rewards are called *blessings*."

8 → Tell the Bible Story (7 minutes)

Pull It Together

- Print "Attitudes" Teaching Picture and "Bible Story Cues" (CD).
- Place the "Bible Story Cues" faceup in reverse order (first card on the bottom).
- Show the teaching picture.
- Explain: "Jesus taught about the attitudes God wants people to have."
- Open your Bible to Matthew 5:1-12.
- Place the "Bible Story Cues" facedown near you. (The first card should be on top.)

Jesus Taught About Attitudes

Based on Matthew 5:1-12

When Jesus saw the crowds of people following Him, He went up on a mountain and sat down. As His disciples gathered around Him, He began to teach about attitudes of believers. He said:

- Read verse 3. Show the first card.

Blessed are those who know they need a Savior to have a relationship, or friendship, with God. God will bring into heaven those who believe in His Son.

- Read verse 4. Show the second card.

Blessed are those who are truly sad and sorry for the sins they commit against God. God will comfort them by forgiving them.

- Read verse 5. Show the third card.

Blessed are those who are gentle in thoughts and actions. God will allow them to be with Him forever.

- Read verse 6. Show the fourth card.

Blessed are those who want to do right, as God commands, and want others to do right. God will make all things right in heaven.

- Read verse 7. Show the fifth card.

Blessed are those who go beyond just forgiving others. They show mercy and kindness when people do not deserve it. God will show mercy to them even though they do not deserve it.

- Read verse 8. Show the sixth card.

Blessed are those who keep their thoughts pure, or clean, and think on good things. God will allow these to know Him more and enjoy His presence forever.

- Read verse 9. Show the seventh card.

Blessed are those who love others and try to live peacefully with everyone. God will call them His children.

- Read verse 10. Show the eighth card.

Blessed are those who are treated badly for doing good, or doing as God commands. God will call those into heaven.

- Read verse 11. Show the ninth card.

Blessed are those who are treated badly and accused falsely, or lied about, because they believe in God's Son Jesus. God will greatly reward them in heaven.

- Read verse 12.

Jesus tells believers to be joyful about the hope we have in God's love and the eternal home He has for us.

9 → Review the Bible Story (3 minutes)

- Say: "When we look closely at Matthew 5:3-12, we can see three main teachings. Verses 3-5 deal with each person's heart and mind. Verse 6 deals with each person's relationship to or friendship with God. Verses 7-12 deal with each person's relationships with other people."
- Lead the kids to complete "What Attitudes?" on their Worship Guides.

10 → Learn the Key Bible Verse (3 minutes)

Pull It Together

2 large poster boards, markers

- Write the key Bible verse in 2 parts, 1 part on each poster board.
- Select a volunteer to read aloud the life application on the Worship Guide.
- Read aloud Philippians 2:5.
- Form two teams, one on each side of the room.
- Assign a person from each team to hold his team's poster.
- Direct the teams to take turns reciting the verse in two parts with both groups saying the reference.
- Repeat a few times, remove the signs, and say the verse from memory.

11 → Apply the Key Bible Verse (5 minutes)

- Guide the kids to complete "Your Attitude Is Showing" on their Worship Guides.
- Discuss the cartoons and what children can do to develop attitudes like Jesus'.

12 → Show "This Is My Story: Taylor A." Video #2 (DVD, 6 minutes)

- Show the video.
- Ask: "What did Taylor learn about changing his attitude? What attitudes do you need to ask God to help you change?"

13 Sing "One" DVD (3 minutes)

14 → Pray (1 minute)

- Select a volunteer to pray aloud, thanking Jesus for teaching us about attitudes.

15 → Transition to Application Activities or Wrap Up

Wrap-Up

(Large Group Only Format)

16 Sing "Let My Actions Match My Passion" (DVD, 3 minutes)

- Invite a volunteer to lead the song with motions for the others to follow.

17 Attitude Stickers (6 minutes)

Pull It Together

Address labels, permanent markers

- Say: "In today's Bible story, Jesus taught us to be joyful about the hope we have in God's love and how God chooses to reward us."
- Select a volunteer to read aloud Philippians 2:5.
- Ask: "What does this verse tell us about our attitudes?"
- Explain: "Let's make 'Attitude Stickers' to remind us to have great attitudes."
- Distribute labels and markers.
- Lead the children to design stickers to remind people to have positive attitudes.
- Encourage children to place the stickers in places they will see often so they will be reminded to have good attitudes.

18 Conclude (1 minute)

- Say: "Remember, God will help us have good attitudes if we ask Him."

19 Dismiss the Children to Their Parents

Wrap-Up

(Application Activities Format)

16→ Share Application Activities (6 minutes)

- Invite the children to share their Application Activity experiences.
 - Arts and Crafts—Attitude Medals
 - Dramatic Play—Sound Effects
 - Games—"Move Ahead, Move Back"
 - Exploration and Discovery—Attitude Stickers

17→ Sing "Let My Actions Match My Passion" (DVD, 3 minutes)

- Invite a volunteer to lead the song with motions for the others to follow.

18→ Conclude (1 minute)

- Say: "Remember, God will help us have good attitudes if we ask Him."

19→ Dismiss the Children to Their Parents

Application Activities

Select from the following choices. Each choice is designed for 20 minutes of small group time.

Pull It Together

Trophies or awards, flour, salt, powdered alum, water, bowl, measuring cups and spoons, wax paper, ribbon, scissors, toothpicks, ruler

- Cut an 18-inch length of ribbon for each child.

Non-Cook Salt Dough

3 cups flour
3 cups salt
3 tsp. powdered alum (rounded)

Water

- Combine flour, salt, and alum. Add water to the mixture, kneading until clay-like. (Each mixture will make enough dough for 5 to 6 children.)

Teacher Tips

- Place the medals on wax paper to carry home.
- Clay will air dry in 1 to 2 days.

Pull It Together

Scissors, cellophane or wax paper, shoes, coconut shells, poster board, gloves, metal tray, water, cups, pots and pans, whisk, metal bowl

- Print "Sound Effects" (CD).
- Copy page 1 (1 per child).
- Cut apart situations (page 2).

Teacher Tip

Be creative with the items you provide for sound effects.

Worship Through Arts and Crafts

Attitude Medals

- Say: "Many times people receive trophies or awards for winning a competition. In the Olympics, athletes receive medals."
- Ask: "Have you ever watched athletes? What attitudes do you see when they win? How do athletes respond when they lose? Why do people receive trophies or ribbons? How many awards have you received?"
- Display awards. Briefly discuss why you received the awards.
- Continue: "In today's Bible story, Jesus taught us about God's love and how God will reward us in heaven, not because we earned them but because God loves us. Jesus told us to be joyful about the hope we have in God's love and the rewards He has for us."
- Select a volunteer to read aloud Philippians 2:5.
- Ask: "What does this verse tell us about our attitudes?"
- Explain: "Let's make medals to remind us to have great attitudes."
- Read aloud the recipe. Guide the children to make clay.
- Lead the children to form medals with their clay on sheets of wax paper.
- Insert toothpicks through the clay to form holes for the ribbon. Carefully insert the ribbon and tie. (When the clay dries, the children will be able to wear their medals.)
- Guide the children to use toothpicks to write *Good Attitude* on their medals.
- Say: "Our life application states, *I can develop the attitudes God wants me to have*. How can we do this?"
- Pray, asking God to help the children have good attitudes this week.

Worship Through Dramatic Play

Sound Effects

- Say: "Have you ever listened to a ball game on a radio? The announcer tells you the details of the game. The excitement in the announcer's voice can tell you how the game is going. In other radio shows, props are used to create sound effects. For example, to create the sound of someone walking, sound effect technicians place their hands in shoes and 'walk' the shoes on a table. Let's discover how to make other sounds."
- Distribute and review "Sound Effects."
- Continue: "Let's see if we would be good radio announcers."
- Guide the children to form three groups.
- Assign each group a situation to read and complete.
- Challenge the groups to create sound effects for their situations. Assist as needed.
- Call for the groups to share their situations. After each story, discuss the attitudes of the people in the situation.
- Ask: "What can we learn from the people's attitudes?"
- Say: "Our life application states, *I can develop the attitudes God wants me to have*. How can we have positive attitudes about situations we face?"
- Pray, asking God to help the children have good attitudes this week.

Pull It Together

Construction paper (20 sheets), *Giant Game Floor Mat**, beanbag, masking tape, marker

- Write on individual construction papers (10 of each statement, changing the Xs to different numbers):
Good attitude, move ahead X steps; Bad attitude, move back X steps.
- Randomly insert 1 sheet in each pocket.
- Place the game mat on the floor.
- Tape "Start" and "Finish" lines on the floor approximately 15 feet apart.

Worship Through Games

"Move Ahead, Move Back"

- Call attention to the *Giant Game Floor Mat*.
- Explain: "Let's play a game. One person at a time will toss a beanbag on the mat and do what the square says. The object of the game is to be the first person to cross the 'Finish' line."
- Guide the children to line up behind the "Start" line.
- Begin the game. Notice how the children respond when the beanbag lands on a space that tells them to move backward. Replay as time allows.
- Ask: "When is it easy to have a good attitude? When is it difficult?"
- Summarize the children's attitudes during the game.
- Say: "Jesus taught about having the right attitude."
- Select a volunteer to read aloud Philippians 2:5.
- Ask: "What does this verse tell us about our attitudes? How do our attitudes affect our examples to people?"
- Say: "Our life application states, *I can develop the attitudes God wants me to have*. Let's ask God to help us have positive attitudes this week."
- Pray, asking God to help the children have good attitudes this week.

Pull It Together

Post-It® notes; newspaper; parchment paper; white, all-purpose school glue; white vinegar; small bowl; whisk; small sponge pieces; permanent markers; scissors

- Cover the work area with newspaper.
- Whisk 1 part vinegar and 2 parts school glue in a bowl.

Teacher Tips

- Speed up the drying process by holding the papers in front of a small fan.
- Use parchment paper for better results than paper or construction paper.
- Use a good quality of school glue for best results.

Worship Through Exploration and Discovery

Attitude Stickers

- Read aloud Philippians 2:5.
- Ask: "What does this verse tell us about our attitudes? How do our attitudes show what we believe about Jesus? Is Jesus pleased with our attitudes?"
- Display Post-It® notes. Explain: "Dr. Spencer Silver invented the glue used on Post-It notes in 1968. The glue was not sticky enough for what Dr. Silver needed. However, in 1974, a coworker of Dr. Silver's, Arthur Fry, became frustrated that the bookmarks in his hymnal would fall out. Fry applied some of Dr. Silver's glue to his bookmarks. He discovered he could remove the bookmarks without damaging his hymnal. Although first manufactured and sold in 1977, it was not until the early 1980s that people really began using Post-It notes. In fact, by 1981, Post-It notes could be purchased in many countries around the world."
- Ask: "How do you think Dr. Silver felt when his invention did not work? Did the company allow the mistakes to keep them from using the product?"
- Continue: "Let's imagine we work with Dr. Silver. He gave us an assignment to create stickers to remind people to have good attitudes."
- Distribute the parchment paper and markers. Encourage the children to design stickers to remind people to have positive attitudes.
- Direct the children to turn their pages over and sponge a very light film of glue and vinegar solution on the back.
- Explain: "When the glue dries, cut apart your stickers. Place your stickers in places you will see to remind you to have a good attitude."
- Say: "Our life application states, *I can develop the attitudes God wants me to have*. Let's ask God to help us have positive attitudes this week."
- Pray, asking God to help the children have good attitudes this week.



Worship KidStyle Children's Edition

Parent Connection

Parents: Check out what your child is learning in *Worship KidStyle*! The information on this page will help you carry out your role as your child's primary spiritual developer by continuing the discussion we have in class.

It's Not About Me

This unit reveals how Jesus taught believers many things.

Session 1: Attitude Check

The Big Idea: I can develop the attitudes God wants me to have.

The Bible Story: Jesus Taught About Attitudes (Matthew 5:1-12)

Key Bible Verse: Philippians 2:5

Connecting Points: Provide each family member with markers and two circles cut from yellow construction paper. Instruct your family members to draw a smiley face on one of their circles and a sad face on the other. Say: "I'm going to name some situations. You decide if your attitude about that situation is good or bad. If your attitude is usually good, hold up the smiley face. If it's bad, show the sad face." Name several situations, one at a time, such as doing chores, playing with siblings, doing homework, and so forth, and encourage family members to respond. Read aloud Philippians 2:5. Discuss the attitude of Christ. Say: "God wants our attitudes to be like Jesus' attitude." Pray, asking God to help your family members develop the attitudes He wants them to have.

Session 2: Pray About It

The Big Idea: I can pray to God.

The Bible Story: Jesus Taught About Prayer (Matthew 5:1-2; 6:5-13; Luke 18:9-14)

Key Bible Verse: Psalm 54:2

Connecting Points: Enlist your child to help you write the words of Matthew 6:9-13 on poster board and display. Provide each family member with a small, inexpensive notebook/journal and a pencil or pen. Say: "Jesus taught His disciples to pray. Let's say this Model Prayer together." Read aloud Matthew 6:9-13. Encourage family members to use their notebooks as prayer journals by listing things they want to pray for. Suggest they look back at their lists frequently and write when and how God answers their prayers. Pray, thanking God that you can pray to Him anywhere, anytime, and about anything. Challenge your family members to memorize the Model Prayer this week!

Session 3: Don't Worry About It

The Big Idea: I can trust God rather than worry.

The Bible Story: Jesus Taught About Worry (Matthew 5:1-2; 6:25-34)

Key Bible Verse: Matthew 6:25

Connecting Points: While driving your child to school, church, or the store this week, observe and talk about nature around you. Later, read aloud Matthew 6:25-34. Ask: "What kinds of things cause you to worry?" Encourage family members to be honest about their feelings, being cautious not to dismiss their feelings. Draw attention back to the verses you read. Read aloud verse 33 again. Say: "When we seek God first, He promises to provide everything we need." Pray, asking God to help your family trust Him rather than worry.

Session 4: Follow the Leader

The Big Idea: I can follow God's plan for my life.

The Bible Story: Jesus Taught About Following God (Mark 10:17-27)

Key Bible Verse: Jeremiah 29:11

Connecting Points: Write *next week*, *1 year*, *5 years*, *10 years*, and *20 years* on separate sheets of paper and display around the room. Lead your family to gather at the "next week" sign and talk about what they plan to be doing next week. Continue moving to other signs around the room, discussing future plans each person has. Invite your child to read aloud Jeremiah 29:11. Ask: "What plans does God have for us?" Discuss the importance of seeking God's leadership in your lives. Pray, asking God to help your family members follow His plans for their lives.

BONUS: Go Tell It

The Big Idea: I can tell people about Jesus.

The Bible Story: Jesus Taught About Telling Others (Matthew 4:18-22; 9:9-13; 28:16-20)

Key Bible Verse: John 20:21

Connecting Points: Provide different colors of construction paper, scissors, and markers. Lead your family members to cut out several fish shapes from the paper. Read aloud Matthew 18:22. Say: "When Jesus called His first disciples, He told them He would make them fish for people." Talk about what Jesus meant when He said they would fish for people (to tell people about Jesus). Challenge family members to write on their fish shapes names of people they can tell about Jesus. Encourage them to keep their fish shapes in a place where they can be reminded to tell the people about Jesus. Pray, asking God to help your family tell people about Jesus.

**Need a Savior to
have a relationship,
or friendship,
with God**

**Truly sad and sorry
for the sins they
commit against God**

Gentle in thoughts and actions

**Want to do right,
as God commands,
and want others
to do right**

**Go beyond just
forgiving others by
showing mercy and
kindness when people
do not deserve it**

**Keep their thoughts
pure, or clean, and
think on good things**

**Love others and
try to live peacefully
with everyone**

**Treated badly
for doing good,
or doing as God
commands**

**Treated badly
and accused falsely,
or lied about,
because they believe
in God's Son, Jesus**

Sound Effects

The next time you watch a movie or listen to a radio show, think about the sound effects. Many of the sounds are produced using other items. Which of these sounds can you create?

Fire: crumple cellophane or wax paper together

Footsteps: tap the heels of two shoes together, then tap the toes

Horses: two halves of coconut shells tapping together

Kisses: kiss your arm

Thunder: piece of poster board shaken

Bird's wings: pair of gloves waved up and down

Tray dropping: metal tray dropped on the floor

Hands clapping: clap hands together

Person yelling: people near the microphone shouting

Water pouring: pour water from one cup to another

Pots and pans: bang pots and pans together, dropping them on the table or floor

Mixing items: tap a whisk against the side of a metal mixing bowl

Read the situation. Prepare to tell the story as if you were on a radio show. Use the items to create sound effects. Discuss the attitudes of the people in the story.

Meghan and the Cupcakes

Meghan promised her teacher she would bring cupcakes for a class party. The night before the party, Meghan remembered to tell her mother she needed 30 cupcakes. Meghan's mother was not happy about having to bake cupcakes. Meghan's mother went to the kitchen. She tossed the boxed cake mix on the counter. She tossed the pans on the stove. As she mixed the ingredients, she said ... (Finish the story.)

Read the situation. Prepare to tell the story as if you were on a radio show. Use the items to create sound effects. Discuss the attitudes of the people in the story.

Easton's Accident

Easton's grandfather asked him to help water the plants. Easton did not hear his grandfather tell him not to pour the water directly on the plants. As Easton poured the water, he heard his grandfather slap his hands together. Easton's grandfather shouted, "Easton, stop!" Easton turned to see his grandfather ... (Finish the story, creating an accident caused by Easton not listening.)

Read the situation. Prepare to tell the story as if you were on a radio show. Use the items to create sound effects. Discuss the attitudes of the people in the story.

The Zoo

The class was ready for a field trip. All week Mrs. Groover said the children would have to be on their best behavior. The class was so excited—the day finally arrived! On the bus ride to the zoo, the class was so loud, Mrs. Groover could not give them the final instructions. At the zoo, the children saw all types of animals. Because the class did not hear Mrs. Groover's directions ... (Finish the story, creating a situation in which the children face a difficult challenge.)
