

Sermon on the Mount

Print out or write out the individual verses from Matthew 5:3-12 that are found below and spread them around the room. Let the children move around the room, reading the beatitudes.

Encourage them to think about what they're reading. For example, they might think about:

What strikes me about this?

Does anything surprise me? Inspire me? Shock me? Challenge me?

Is there anything I don't understand? Which verse stands out to me? Why?

Encourage them to talk about some of these things as they go around the room.

After a few minutes, have a discussion about what Jesus' words mean, why these things are important and the difference they make to the world. You can use the questions below if that would be helpful.

Who would you say is blessed?

Which groups of people seem to be blessed?

Which celebrities or people you know do you think are blessed?

Actually, what does it mean to be blessed?

Matthew 5:3-12

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.