# **Table of Contents**

#### Course Content

#### Lessons

- 1. Jesus, the Son of Abraham
- 2. Jesus, the Son of David
- 3. Jesus, the Savior
- 4. Jesus is Immanuel
- 5. Bethlehem, City of David, House of Bread
- 6. Wise Men Worship Jesus, the Light of the World
- 7. Out of Egypt Have I Called My Son
- 8. John the Baptist: Repent for the Kingdom of Heaven is at Hand!
- 9. Jesus' Baptism and Temptations
- 10. The Beatitudes, Blessings on Sinners
- 11. The Beatitudes, Blessings on Sinners
- 12. God's Law and Anger
- 13. God's Law and Love
- 14. The Lord's Prayer
- 15. The Lord's Prayer
- 16. Palm Sunday and Joy
- 17. Resurrection Sunday and Great Joy
- 18. The Golden Rule and the Two Foundations
- 19. His Blessings Flow
- 20. The Sending Out of the Twelve
- 21. Jesus Brings Joyous Sabbath Rest to Some
- 22. The Sower and the Seed: Bright Hope for the Future in the Kingdom Parables
- 23. Bright Hope for the Future in the Kingdom Parables
- 24. Persecution and Provision: How Does the Garden Grow?
- 25. Talk Four "Humility and Forgiveness"
- 26. Jesus Blesses Little Children Who Worship Him
- 27. The Fifth and Last Talk: "The Old Kingdom is Judged as the New Kingdom is Established
- 28. The Great Commission
- 29. Review, Preparation for Test
- 30. Matthew Test, Genesis Introduction

#### Test

Handouts: Beatitudes, 10 Commandments, The Lord's Prayer

Additional Materials

## Parents' Handout

# **Lesson 1:** Jesus, the Son of Abraham Text: Matthew 1:1-6

What We Did This Week

This year we will be teaching your child Matthew and Genesis. This week's class was our first Sunday in Advent. We'll be doing four Sundays in Advent focusing on four names from Matthew chapters 1 and 2: Abraham, David, Jesus, and Immanuel.

The first Sunday after Christmas, we'll talk about Bethlehem, and then the next Sunday, Epiphany, January 6, we'll talk about the visit of the Wise Men.

This week's topic was "Jesus, the Son of Abraham." Our text was Matthew 1:1-6. We talked about how Abraham was promised three things: Land, Son, and Blessing to the Nations.

In telling this story, we emphasized the PATIENCE of Abraham. Abraham had to wait to get the land (had to leave, etc.); had to wait to get a child (until quite old); had to wait to be a blessing to the nations (difficulties for him and his son, Isaac, in foreign lands).

The world had to wait 4,000 years for the promised Savior, Jesus. God fulfilled these promises fully by sending Jesus. Jesus is the fulfillment of the promises to Abraham. Matthew ends with the Great Commission, the Son tells us to disciple all the nations in all the land/world.

# How We'd Ask You to Help Us This Week

We are encouraging each child to bring a Bible to class and to be able to find Genesis and Matthew in it. If you need help getting your child a bible, please let us know.

Each week, we will be stressing some character attribute. This week, the character attribute we stressed in class was patience.

Your child's memory verse for this week is **James 5:8**, in the New King James Version: "You also be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand."

## Parents' Handout

**Lesson 2: Jesus, the Son of David Text:** Matthew 1:6-17

What We Did This Week

This year we will be teaching your child Matthew and Genesis. This week's class was our second Sunday in Advent. We'll be doing four Sundays in Advent focusing on four names from Matthew chapters 1 and 2: Abraham, David, Jesus, and Immanuel.

The first Sunday after Christmas, we'll talk about Bethlehem, and then the next Sunday, Epiphany, January 6, we'll talk about the visit of the Wise Men.

This week's topic was "Jesus, the Son of David." Our text was Matthew 1:6-17. We talked about how David was given a great promise from the Lord that his seed would sit on the throne of Israel forever, the greatest and best of all kings, the King of kings. Solomon was a near fulfillment, but his son caused the division of Israel, not expansion into all the world.

We said that David was the second king of Israel, that Israel had been impatient for a king and had gotten a bad king, Saul, the first time. If we don't wait patiently for God to provide, we end up getting things that turn out bad. Adam was impatient:; he wanted to eat the fruit of rule before he was ready for it. Adam's impatient disobedience to God was the first fall, Abraham's patient obedience was the first reversal. (Cain's brotherly hatred was the second fall; Jacob's brotherly kindness was the second reversal. The third fall was the Sethites, the sons of God, marrying the daughters of Cain and becoming unholy; the third reversal was Joseph's holiness in resisting Potiphar's wife.)

Last week, we emphasized the PATIENCE of Abraham in waiting for God's promises to be fulfilled. This week we emphasized the SERVICE of David. Saul was like a gentile ruler, ruling by lording it over his people, not serving, but demanding to be served. David was a servant, a true King. He served his father in faithfully tending and protecting the flocks; he served his country by killing Goliath and other enemies. He served his church by reforming worship and writing many psalms, a hymnbook. He was a faithful servant in small things, and so was increasingly entrusted with larger tasks, eventually becoming the king,

The world would wait for 1000 years for the greater David, Jesus Christ, the true Servant of the Lord

# How We'd Ask You to Help Us This Week

Your child's memory verse for this week is **Mark 10:45** "For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many"

## Parents' Handout

**Lesson 3: Jesus, the Savior Text:** Matthew 1:18-21

#### What We Did This Week

This year we will be teaching your child Matthew and Genesis. This week's class was our third Sunday in Advent. We'll be doing 4 Sundays in Advent focusing on 4 names from Matthew chapters 1 and 2: Abraham, David, Jesus, and Immanuel. The first Sunday after Christmas, we'll talk about Bethlehem, and then the next Sunday, Epiphany, January 6, we'll talk about the visit of the Wise Men.

This week's topic was "Jesus, the Savior." Our text was Matthew 1:18-21. We talked about Jesus being the same name as Joshua. Joshua saved God's people from their enemies. Jesus saves us from our enemies, such as Ossama Ben Ladin. But our text focuses on Jesus saving His people from their sin.

We stressed that we are God's people, one evidence being our baptisms. We said that Jesus saved us from hell, the penalty of sin, by dying in our place. We said that in heaven, we would be saved from even having to be around sin. But we focused on Jesus saving us from sin by making us sin less and less in our lives.

We used our memory verse to stress that the way this happens is by confession of sin. We used the Peacemakers material, which teaches the 7 A's of confession. They are:

Address everyone involved.

Admit what we did (specifically)

Accept consequences

(We stressed here that only Jesus can pay the price for our sin.)

Alter behavior

Avoid excuses (if, but, maybe)
Apologize
Ask forgiveness

We concluded by talking about how Jesus our Savior is saving us from impatience, laziness, and from wanting to be the boss, reviewing the last two week's application.

# How We'd Ask You to Help Us This Week

We are encouraging each child to bring a Bible to class and to be able to find Genesis and Matthew in it. If you need help getting your child a bible, please let us know.

This week, the character attribute we stressed in class was honesty.

Your child's memory verse for this week is **1 John 1:9**, in the New King James Version:

"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

# Parents' Handout

Lesson 4: Jesus Is Emmanuel Text: Matthew 1

# What We Did This Week

This year we wilt be teaching your child Matthew and Genesis. This week's class was our fourth Sunday in Advent. We have done 4 Sundays in Advent focusing on 4 names from Matthew chapters 1 and 2: Abraham, David, Jesus, and Immanuel. The first Sunday after Christmas, we'll talk about Bethlehem, and then the next Sunday, Epiphany, January 6, we'll talk about the visit of the Wise Men.

This week's topic was "Jesus is Immanuel." Our text was Matthew 1:22-25. We talked about Immanuel, which literally means "God With Us." We stressed the fulfillment theme of Advent, and of our text, looking back at Isaiah Chapters 7 and 8, where the name Immanuel was to be given to a child who would be a sign that God would prevent Israel's feared enemies from attacking them.

We talked about how Matthew's Gospel ends with the promise from Jesus to us that He would be with us, even until the end of time. We noted that Hebrews 2:15 links the fear of death with bondage to sin. So the removal of the fear of death (in all its forms) is very important for our sanctification.

We also noted that the child described in Isaiah 7 would "refuse the evil and choose the good." We stressed that that's the kind of children God is making them as they are patient (Abraham), servant-oriented (David), honest (Jesus saves them from their sins as they admit them and confess them) and courageous (believing God is with us).

# How We'd Ask You to Help Us This Week

We are encouraging each child to bring a Bible to class and to be able to find Genesis and Matthew in it. If you need help getting your child a Bible, please let us know.

Each week, we will be stressing some character attribute. This week, the character attribute we stressed in class was courage.

Your child's memory verse for this week is Hebrews 13:6, in the New King James Version: "So we may boldly say: The LORD is my helper; I will not fear. What can man do to me?"

## Parents' Handout

**Lesson 5: Bethlehem, City of David, House of Bread Text:** Matthew 2:1

What We Did This Week

This year we will be teaching your child Matthew and Genesis. This week's class was our first Sunday after Christmas. We have done 4 Sundays in Advent focusing on 4 names from Matthew chapters 1 and 2: Abraham, David, Jesus, and Immanuel. This week, we talked about Bethlehem, and next Sunday, Epiphany, January 6, we'll talk about the visit of the WIse Men.

This week's topic was "Bethlehem, City of David, House of Bread." Our text was Matthew 2:1. We showed the children where Bethlehem is on a map of Israel. We talked about Bethlehem being the City of David, where David was born and anointed King. We said that we would expect the King of Kings to be born there. We said that it was the obedience of Joseph to Caesar, in very difficult times, that resulted in Jesus being born there, where Micah 5:2 said He would be. We contrasted good King Jesus with wicked King Herod, who killed children in Bethlehem. We also pointed out that Bethlehem means "House of Bread." We linked today's lesson with John 6, that Jesus came to be the good Shepherd-King who would give Himself as the true bread come down from heaven.

How We'd Ask You to Help Us This Week

We are encouraging each child to bring a Bible to class and to be able to find Genesis and Matthew in it. If you need help getting your child a bible, please let us know.

Each week, we will be stressing some character attribute. This week, the character attribute we stressed in class was *obedience*.

Your child's memory verse for this week is Isa. 1:19, in the New King James Version: "If you are willing and obedient, You shall eat the good of the land."

Parents' Handout

**Lesson 6: Wise Men Worship Jesus, the Light of the World Text: Matthew 2:1-12** 

#### What We Did This Week

This year we will be teaching your child Matthew and Genesis. This week's class was on the Sunday of Epiphany. We have done 4 Sundays in Advent focusing on 4 names from Matthew chapters 1 and 2: Abraham, David, Jesus, and Immanuel. Last week, we talked about Bethlehem, the house of bread.

This week's topic was "Epiphany: Wise Men Worship Jesus, the Light of the World." Our text was Matthew 2:1-12.

In our lesson, we told the story of the Magi coming to Jesus. We said that they visited him when he was between 40 days and two years old. These Persian Kingmakers came from the east and were guided by a bright star right to where Jesus was staying. We spoke of the fulfillment of Isaiah 60:3 "And the Gentiles shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising."

We talked about Epiphany as the manifestation of Jesus to the Gentile nations represented by these wise men. We said that wise men still worship Him.

We talked about Jesus saying that He was the light of the world. And we stressed that we can worship Jesus by shining as lights in the midst of a dark world (Phillipians2) when we don't grumble or dispute, but are cheerful.

## How We'd Ask You to Help Us This Week

We are encouraging each child to bring a Bible to class and to be able to find Genesis and Matthew in it. If you need help getting your child a bible, please let us know.

Each week, we will be stressing some character attribute. This week, the character attribute we stressed in class was **cheerfulness**.

Your child's memory verse this week is Philippians 2:14, in the New King James Version:

"Do all things without complaining and disputing,"

Parents' Handout

**Lesson 7: Out of Egypt Have I Called My Son Text:** Matthew 2:13-23

#### What We Did This Week

This week's topic was "Out of Egypt Have I Called My Son." Our text was Matthew 2:13-23. In our lesson, we told the story of wicked King Herod's attempt to kill Jesus. God takes care of His people, and warned Joseph about the murder attempt. So, Joseph was instructed by God to take Jesus to Egypt. We talked about how God also took care of Jesus by bringing valuable gifts just before He had to go on a long trip. God was fulfilling prophecy, which had said that He would call His son out of Egypt.

We talked about the correlations between this text and the Exodus of the Old Testament. Israel had become Egypt; Herod is like Pharaoh, who tried to force God's people to kill their children. Jesus is the greater Moses, setting us up for seeing the Sermon on the Mount as a new Sinai, so to speak, another giving of the law and its blessings, correcting the perversions of the law that the scribes and Pharisees had taught. We stressed that Go can be trusted to take care of us, and our trust in Him is demonstrated by obedience, just as Joseph's trust was evidenced by immediate obedience.

# How We'd Ask You to Help Us This Week

We are encouraging each child to bring a Bible to class and to be able to find Genesis and Matthew in it. If you need help getting your child a bible, please let us know.

Each week, we will be stressing some character attribute. This week, the character attribute we stressed in class was **trust**.

Your child's memory verse this week is Proverbs 3:5:

"Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths".

# Parents' Handout

**Lesson 8:** John the Baptist: Repent for the Kingdom of Heaven is at Hand!

Text:

Matthew 3:1-12

#### What We Did This Week

This week's topic was "John the Baptist: Repent, For the Kingdom of Heaven Is At Hand!" Our text was Matthew 3:1-12.

In our lesson, we told the story of John the Baptist. We talked about the relationship between John and Jesus. We pointed out that John's baptism in the wilderness was a reminder of the people's sin, which had originally driven Adam and Eve out of the Garden into the wilderness.

We talked about John's call for repentance, and talked about two aspects of this: confession (reviewing the 7 A's of confession that we taught in an earlier lesson) and showing evidence (fruits) of our repentance in our lives.

We talked about the nearness of Jesus bringing increased danger to those who didn't repent, and His nearness to us in corporate Lord's Day worship. We spoke of the Pharisees and Sadducees as snake children, imaging the pride of the serpent and his leading Adam and Eve into pride in the garden. We stressed the need for humility, not counting on our church membership, our good homes or our good works, but ultimately on the grace of Jesus to sinners. We related this to the first of the Beatitudes, the poor in spirit. To end the lesson, we talked about how God will destroy the chaff, the unrepentant wicked, with fire, but will gather the wheat, those who love and trust Him, into his barn forever.

## How We'd Ask You to Help Us This Week

We are encouraging each child to bring a Bible to class and to be able to find Genesis and Matthew in it. If you need help getting your child a bible, please let us know.

Each week, we will be stressing some character attribute. This week, the character attribute we stressed in class was **humility.** 

Your child's memory verse this week is Proverbs 29:23

"A man's pride will bring him low, but the humble in spirit will retain honor."

# Parents' Handout

**Lesson 9: Jesus' Baptism and Temptations** Text: Matthew 3:13-4:25

#### What We Did This Week

This week's topic was "Jesus' Baptism and Temptation" Our text was Matthew 3:13-4:25.

We divided the lesson into two parts: Jesus' Baptism, and Jesus Temptation in the Wilderness. In the first part, we focused on the picture of the Trinity at Jesus' Baptism, and stressed this important Christian doctrine. We talked about the social implications of the Trinity: that we all live in the context of a community, and we all should see ourselves as servants to each other, the way the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit exist in community and serve each other.

We also stressed the baptism of Jesus as the starting point of His public ministry, noting the many things He does after the baptism in the last half of chapter four.

In the second half of the lesson, we talked about how commitment is frequently followed by testing. The Temptation in the Wilderness immediately follows the commitment of Christ to His work at His baptism. We stressed Jesus' unique character as the Savior who could resist all temptations of the Devil. We stressed Jesus' use of the Word in resisting temptation, and emphasized the importance of perseverance in the face of trials or temptations.

# How We'd Ask You to Help Us This Week

We are encouraging each child to bring a Bible to class and to be able to find Genesis and Matthew in it. It would be helpful if you could review the appropriate portion of the Bible with your child during the week.

Each week, we will be stressing some character attribute. This week, the character attribute we stressed in class was **perseverance**.

Your child's **memory verse** this week is Job 17:9

Yet the righteous will hold to his way, and he who has clean hands will be stronger and stronger.

## Parents' Handout

**Lesson 10: The Beatitudes, Blessings on Sinners Text:** Matthew 5:1-16

## What We Did This Week

This week's topic was "The Beatitudes, Blessings on Sinners" Our text was Matthew 5:1-16.

The next six weeks, we will be covering Matthew Chapters 5 and 6. We will spend two weeks on the Beatitudes, two weeks on Jesus teaching about the law, and two weeks on the Lord's Prayer. This will bring us to Palm Sunday, when we will jump forward to Matthew 21.

In this first lesson on the Beatitudes, we talked about the similarities between Jesus and Moses. Like Moses, He was saved from a wicked ruler. Like Moses, he came out of Egypt. Like Moses, Matthew shows Jesus preaching a number of sermons, teachings on God's Law. Like Moses, Jesus goes up to a mountain in relationship to the Law. Jesus teaches about the law from a mountain. But He begins not with demands, but with blessings. We said that the first Beatitude – blessed are the poor in sprit – pronounces a blessing on those who recognize their innate poverty of ability, and their great need for Jesus. The Law starts for God's people with blessings. God brought His people out of Egypt, blessed them by extending them the Kingdom, then gave them laws about how to live in that Kingdom.

# How We'd Ask You to Help Us This Week

The next several weeks, we will be teaching about the **Beatitudes**.

Each week, we will be stressing some character attribute. This week, the character attribute we stressed in class was humble thankfulness, a thankfulness grounded in our humility, our poverty of spirit.

Your child's memory verse this week is. Psalm 32:1 "Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered."

(This verse is quoted in Romans 4:6,7, where the Latin term beatitudo is found in verse 6 of an early Latin translation (the Vulgate) of the text. This is where the title "Beatitudes" is derived from.)

## Parents' Handout

**Text:** Matthew 5:1-16

**Lesson 11:** The Beatitudes, Blessings on Sinners

## What We Did This Week

This week's topic was again "The Beatitudes, Blessings on Sinners" Our text again was Matthew 5:1-16.

From February 6 to March 13, we are covering Matthew Chapters 5 and 6. We will spend two weeks on the Beatitudes, two weeks on Jesus teaching about the law, and two weeks on the Lord's Prayer. This will bring us to Palm Sunday, when we will jump forward to Matthew chapter 21.

In this second lesson on the Beatitudes we reviewed the similarities between Jesus and Moses. Then we talked about the Beatitudes. We particularly focused on meekness. The original Greek word translated "meek" referred to a horse, which had been "broken to harness." So, meekness doesn't mean weakness, but rather strength, but strength under the Savior's control. We defined "peacemakers" as those who bring God's order, and said this is as practical as keeping our rooms orderly, or being loving to our brothers and sisters.

## How We'd Ask You to Help Us This Week

Each week, we will be stressing some character attribute. This week, the character attribute we stressed in class was **meekness**.

Your child's memory verse this week is Matthew 11:29 "Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls." [KJV]

## Parents' Handout

**Text:** Matthew 5:17-26

**Lesson 12:** God's Law and Anger

## What We Did This Week

From February 6 to March 13, we are covering the Sermon on the Mount from Matthew Chapters 5 and 6. We will spend two weeks on the Beatitudes, two weeks on Jesus teaching about the law, and two weeks on the Lord's Prayer. This will bring us to Palm Sunday, when we will jump forward to Matt. 21.

NOTE: We are getting some Palm branches for the children to hold during our processional into the worship service on March 20<sup>th</sup>. They will follow Pastor Tuuri into the service that day from the Dining Hall.

In this lesson on God's Law, again we reviewed the similarities between Jesus and Moses. We talked about the relation between the 10 Commandments and Jesus' teaching about the Law in the Sermon on the Mount.

We reviewed the 10 Commandments, using a couple of handout sheets. We noted that the 10 Commandments begin with the blessing of God's deliverance from slavery of those He will command. In like manner, Jesus starts with the Beatitudes of blessings, and then moves to commands. We stressed that we can shine as lights by having the proper attitudes and the proper actions. The wrong actions we spoke about today were getting angry at people without a good cause, and calling others names. We also spoke about the need to go and be reconciled with others before we take communion.

#### How We'd Ask You to Help Us This Week

Each week, we will be stressing some character attribute. This week, the character attribute we stressed in class was **forbearance**.

Your child's memory verse this week is. Psalm 37:8 "Cease from anger, and forsake wrath; do not fret—it only causes harm."

Parents' Handout

**Text:** Matthew 5:33-48

**Lesson 13:** God's Law and Love

# What We Did This Week

This week's topic was again "God's Law and Love" Our text was Matthew 5:33-48.

From February 10 to March 17, we are covering the Sermon on the Mount, from Matthew Chapters 5 and 6. We will spend two weeks on the Beatitudes, two weeks on Jesus teaching about the law, and two weeks on the Lord's Prayer. This will bring us to Palm Sunday, when we will jump forward to Matt. 21.

In this lesson on God's Law, we again reviewed the similarities between Jesus and Moses, talking about the relation between the 10 Commandments (received on a mountain) and Jesus' teaching about the Law in the Sermon on the Mount. We reviewed the pattern of blessing, then law by singing the Beatitudes, This Little Light of Mine, then Judy Roger's version of the 10 commandments. The middle song reminds the children that we are to shine with the right attitudes of the Beatitudes and the right actions of the Law.

We talked about 3 aspects of God's Law today. From verses 33-37, we stressed the need to "Tell the Truth, The Whole Truth and Nothing But the Truth!" even though sometimes this may result in them being disciplined. From verses 38-42, we taught the children "Don't Take the Law Into Your Own Hands!" even though the authorities of parents, elders or police don't always do what's right. Finally, from verses 43-47, we talked about the need to love not just our neighbors, but our enemies as well, by telling them to "Be Patient and Kind To Your Enemies!" We used the header attributes of patience (suffering long) and kindness from 1 Corinthians 13:4A as a good working definition of love.

## How We'd Ask You to Help Us This Week

If you know them, review the songs we are using in class. These include the Beatitudes, This Little Light of Mine, and Judy Rogers version of the 10 commandments. "O Be Careful Little Tongue What You Say" would also be a good song, in light of today's lesson.

Each week, we will be stressing some character attribute. This week, the character attribute we stressed in class was **love**. Your child's **memory verse** this week is:

Love suffers long and is kind. 1 Corinthians 13:4a

This quarter, we start working on two new catechism questions. Your child's **catechism** question we are currently reviewing in class is:

- Q.11. What are God's works of providence?
- A. God's works of providence are, his most holy, wise, and powerful preserving and governing all His creatures, and all their actions.

#### Parents' Handout

**Lesson 14:** The Lord's Prayer Text: Matthew 6

#### What We Did This Week

This week's topic was "The Lord's Prayer" Our text was Matthew 6.

From February 6 to March 13, we are covering the Sermon on the Mount from Matthew Chapters 5 and 6. We will spend two weeks on the Beatitudes, two weeks on Jesus teaching about the law, and two weeks on the Lord's Prayer. This will bring us to Palm Sunday, when we will jump forward to Matt. 21.

NOTE: We are getting some Palm branches for the children to hold during our processional into the worship service on March 20<sup>th</sup>. They will follow Pastor Tuuri into the service that day from the Dining Hall.

In this first of two lessons on the Lord's Prayer, we talked briefly about he context for the instruction about prayer – alms (6:1-4) and fasting (6:16-18). Then we talked about the "bookends" of the Lord's Prayer – the invocation and doxology. We used three handouts as we taught this lesson. We are sending home these handouts that we are using in class this Sunday and next.

## How We'd Ask You to Help Us This Week

Each week, we will be stressing some character attribute. This week, the character attribute we stressed in class was devotion to God. Your child's memory verse this week is: Matthew 22:37,38

"You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the first and great commandment."

Thanks so much for the high privilege and great responsibility of assisting you in the

Christian nurture of your child. Please let us know how we can be of more help!

## Parents' Handout

**Lesson 15:** The Lord's Prayer Text: Matthew 6

## What We Did This Week

This week's topic was again "The Lord's Prayer" Our text was Matthew 6.

From February 10 to March 17, we have been covering the Sermon on the Mount, from Matthew Chapters 5 and 6. We spent two weeks on the Beatitudes, two weeks on Jesus teaching about the law, and two weeks on the Lord's Prayer. Next Sunday, March 24, is Palm Sunday, when we will teach from Matthew 21. **NOTE: We are getting some Palm branches for the children to hold during our processional into the worship service on March 24. They will follow Pastor Tuuri into the service that day from the Dining Hall.** 

In this second of two lessons on the Lord's Prayer, we reviewed the context for the instruction about prayer – alms (6:1-4) and fasting (6:16-18), reviewing last week's character trait of devotion to God. We again talked about the "bookends" of the Lord's Prayer – the invocation and doxology. We used once more the three handouts that were sent home with the students last week.

#### How We'd Ask You to Help Us This Week

If you know them, review the songs we are using in class. These include the Beatitudes (you should have a tape of this), This Little Light of Mine, Judy Rogers version of the 10 Commandments, O Be Careful Little Tongue What You Say, Seek Ye First (Matt. 6:33) and The Wise Man Built (Matt. 7:24-27). It would also be helpful if you could review with your child the handouts we sent home last week.

Each week, we will be stressing some character attribute. This week, the character attribute we stressed in class was **prayerfulness**. Your child's **memory verse** this week is:

**Continue earnestly in prayer, being vigilant in it with thanksgiving.** Colossians 4:2

[NIV alternative **Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful.]** 

## Parents' Handout

**Lesson 16: Palm Sunday and Joy Text:** Matthew 21:1-11

## What We Did This Week

This week's topic was "Palm Sunday and Joy" Our text was Matthew 21:1-11

Today, we reviewed the story of Palm Sunday, and talked about some of the details of the event: the colt that Jesus rode, the palm branches, Hosanna, Jesus the son of David. We said that all this shows us that Jesus went to the cross as King, the heavenly King, who has saved His people (Hosanna means – save us, or you have saved us). We rejoiced in all the details of the text, and in the clear meaning of this text that Jesus is King.

# How We'd Ask You to Help Us This Week

If you know them, review the songs we are using in class. This week we sang "the Joy of the Lord is My Strength." Other songs we have been singing include the Beatitudes (you should have a tape of this), This Little Light of Mine, Judy Rogers version of the 10 Commandments, O Be Careful Little Tongue What You Say, Seek Ye First (Matt. 6:33) and The Wise Man Built (Matt. 7:24-27).

Each week, we will be stressing some character attribute. This week, the character attribute we stressed in class was **joy**. Your child's **memory verse** this week is **Nehemiah 8:10**:

Then he said to them, "Go your way, eat the fat, drink the sweet, and send portions to those for whom nothing is prepared; for this day is holy to our LORD. Do not sorrow, for the joy of the LORD is your strength." (You may want to shorten it to the last underlined phrase)

## Parents' Handout

**Lesson 17: Resurrection Sunday and Great Joy Text:** Text: Matthew 28

## What We Did This Week

Today, we reviewed Passion Week, and told the story of Resurrection Sunday in context. We taught the children:

- 1) the historic responsorial greeting of the church: "He is risen; He is Risen indeed!"
- 2) why we worship on Sunday, which is always, in a sense, Resurrection Sunday.
- 3) the significance of Resurrection Sunday, and that it is the most important event in history.
- 4) that Resurrection Sunday results in God's people being moved definitively from fear to great joy.

Portions of the text itself were used to buttress each of these teaching points.

- 1)"He is risen, as He said"
- 2)"the first day of the week" ""after the Sabbath"
- 3)"a great earthquake"... "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."
  - 4) "Don not be afraid" "Rejoice!" "Do not be afraid"

## How We'd Ask You to Help Us This Week

If you know them, review the songs we are using in class. You may know "I am the resurrection and the life." Other songs we have been singing include the Beatitudes (you should have a tape of this), This Little Light of Mine, Judy Rogers version of the 10 Commandments, O Be Careful Little Tongue What You Say, Seek Ye First (Matt. 6:33), The Wise Man Built (Matt. 7:24-27), and The Joy of the Lord is My Strength.

Each week, we will be stressing some character attribute. This week, the character attribute we stressed in class was the same as last week, only greater! The message of Resurrection Sunday should bring us **great joy.** 

## Your child's **memory verse** this week is **John 11:25**

"I am the Resurrection and the life, he who believes in me will live even though he dies."

Parents' Handout

**Lesson 18:** The Golden Rule and the Two Foundations Text: Matthew 7:12, 24-27

#### What We Did This Week

This week's topic was "The Golden Rule and the Two Foundations" Our text was Matthew 7:12, 24-27.

Today, we returned to the Sermon the Mount, and reviewed it by reviewing the Beatitudes, the Law of God and the Lord's Prayer. In addition, we taught the following four points:

The Sermon on the Mount is the first of 5 major talks by Jesus in this book. The 5 talks are found in Chapters 5-7, 10, 13, 18, and 23-25. The children should start memorizing these chapter denotations. This will help the children to have a cursory outline of Matthew's Gospel when we are done studying it. Just as there were 5 books in the Pentateuch, so this first of the Gospels has give major talks by Jesus recorded.

Song: The Beatitudes

2. Jesus says we are to seek first His Kingdom, and the things we need will be provided by Him.

Song: Seek Ye First

3. We seek His Kingdom by treating others the way we would like to be treated. Song: Be Ye Kind

Activity Sheet: The Golden Rule, Coloring or Word Puzzles

 The wise man is the one who hears AND obeys.
 Song: The Wise Man Builds His House Upon the Rock Activity sheet: The Two Foundations, Dot to dot or Word Puzzles

## How We'd Ask You to Help Us This Week

If you know them, review the songs we are using in class. In addition to the ones we used above, these include "I am the resurrection and the life," "This Little Light of Mine," Judy Rogers version of the 10 Commandments, "O Be Careful Little Tongue What You Say," and "The Joy of the Lord is My Strength."

Each week, we will be stressing some character attribute. This week, the character attribute we stressed in class was kindness to others.

Your child's memory verse this week is Matthew 7:12

"Therefore, whatever you want men to do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets."

## Parents' Handout

**Lesson 19: His Blessings Flow Text:** Matthew 8, 9

## What We Did This Week

This week's topic was "His Blessings Flow" Our text was Matthew 8 and 9.

Today, we taught Chapters 8 and 9 as the actions that come between the first two of the five major talks by Jesus that structure the Gospel of Matthew: The Sermon on the Mount (Chapters 5-7) and The Sending Out of the Twelve (Chapter 10). In addition, we taught the following four points:

- Leprosy was a sign of the effects of the curse on mankind. Like the sweat on Adam's brow, leprosy is on the skin. As the lead miracle in these transition chapters from the Sermon on the Mount to The Sending Out of the Twelve, the message here is that the effects of the curse are being rolled back by the work of Jesus.
- 2. Jesus did incredible and numerous miracles during these two chapters. He healed a leper, healed a painfully paralyzed servant (at a distance!), cured a fever (concerned about all of our illnesses, not just the big ones!), cast demons out of people, calmed a storm at sea (we can trust Him when the weather scares us), healed a woman who had been bleeding for twelve years when she touched his garment, raised a girl out of a death-like coma, healed two blind men, and restored speech to a dumb man (we find our voice in Jesus).
- 3. Jesus is God. This is demonstrated by his incredible healing powers.
- 4. Jesus shows us that God has compassion on people. 9:36 is the segway from these miracles that show His blessings are flowing as far as the cruse is found, to the next major talk The Sending Out of the Twelve who will also make His blessings flow. Will the children commit to being disciples, and being compassionate to people, and wanting to be a channel of blessing?

## How We'd Ask You to Help Us This Week

If you know them, review the songs we are using in class. This week we sang verse 3 of Joy to The world: "No more let sins and sorrows grow, Nor thorns infest the ground!, He comes to make His blessings flow, Far as the curse is found, Far as, far as, the curse is found.

Other songs we are singing include: "I am the resurrection and the life," "This Little Light of Mine," Judy Rogers version of the 10 Commandments, "O Be Careful Little Tongue What You Say," "The Joy of the Lord is My Strength," "The Beatitudes" "Seek Ye First" and "The Wise Man Built His House Upon the Rock.0

Each week, we will be stressing some character attribute. This week, the character attribute we stressed in class was **compassion** 

Your child's memory verse this week is 1 Peter 3:8

"Finally, all of you be of one mind, having compassion for one another; love as brothers, be tenderhearted, be courteous"

## Parents' Handout

**Lesson 20:** The Sending Out of the Twelve Text: Matthew 10

## What We Did This Week

This week's topic was "The Sending Out of the Twelve." Our text was Matthew 10.

Today, we taught the following five points:

- 1. The twelve carry on the work of Jesus, rolling back the effects of the curse. (v. 1)
- 2. The message they spoke was that the Kingdom had come with the coming of Jesus and His messengers.
- 3. They were to expect people not to like them. The Kingdom challenges all other Kingdoms.
- 4. They were to have compassion, as Jesus did.
- 5. Jesus is still sending men to teach His people about His Kingdom. The ones He has sent to you are your parents, your pastors, and your Sunday School teachers. They are part of God's means to help you avoid the effects of the curse, and enter into the joy and blessings of Christ's Kingdom.

## How We'd Ask You to Help Us This Week

Please continue to review what we have taught thus far by singing the songs listed on past Parents Handouts.

Each week, we will be stressing some character attribute. This week, the character attribute we stressed in class was **Esteem** (for parents, pastors and Sunday School teachers).

## Your child's **memory verse** this week is **1 Thes. 5:13**

"Esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake. Be at peace among yourselves."

Note Context: verse 12 "And we urge you, brethren, to recognize those who labor among you, and are over you in the Lord and admonish you

Parents' Handout

**Lesson 21: Jesus Brings Joyous Sabbath Rest to Some Text: Matthew 11, 12** 

#### What We Did This Week

This week's topic was "Jesus Brings Joyous Sabbath Rest To Some." Our text was Matthew 11,12.

The outline for Matthew we are teaching your child revolves around the five major talks by Jesus. Chapters 11 and 12 are between two of these talks, The Sending Out of the Twelve (Chapter 10) and the Kingdom Parables (Chapter 13). Jesus sends out His ministers to roll back the effects of the curse, the Kingdom will grow, but this Sabbath blessing will happen in the context of opposition and curse to those who reject Jesus and His ministers.

Today, we taught the following points:

- 1. Jesus promises those who believe in Him rest. (11:28)
- 2. This is a rest in the midst of enemies.
  - a. John the Baptist is arrested. (Jesus highly commends John the Baptist.)
  - b. Jesus curses those cities that do not believe in Him.
  - c. The Jews falsely accuse Jesus of breaking the Sabbath, even though nothing He did was a violation of God's Law.
  - d. The Jews plan here to kill Jesus (12:14) because he helped people.
- 3. The Sabbath is a day of evaluation. While Jesus' people are given rest, His opponents are given curse in this section.
- 4. The rest for those that believe in Jesus is a rest that brings joy.
  - a. The iov of eating.
  - b. The joy of being healed.
  - c. The joy of being able to work the rest of the week (withered hand made whole).
  - d. The joy of having an extended family (the church: the children can see other adults at RCC as uncles, aunts, cousins, etc.).
  - e. The joy of being able to help others. (The Jews should have invited Jesus and His men in to eat! They were traveling, doing the Father's work.)

## How We'd Ask You to Help Us This Week

Please continue to review what we have taught thus far by singing the songs listed on past Parents Handouts.

Each week, we will be stressing some character attribute. This week, the character attribute we stressed in class was **Rest**.

Your child's memory verse this week is Matthew 11:28

"Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest"

Parents' Handout

Lesson 22: The Sower and the Seed: Bright Hope for the Future in the Kingdom Parables

Text: Matthew 13

#### What We Did This Week

This week's topic was "The Sower and the Seed: Bright Hope for the Future in the Kingdom Parables of Matthew 13." Your child's class is a survey class of Matthew. The outline we are teaching your child revolves around the five major talks by Jesus. We hope you child is able to memorize the 7 bolded points of the outline below: The italicized notes below each numbered point are for your information.

- 1. Advent of the Savior-King: Jesus as Greater Abraham, David, and Moses (Five Talks, Five Books)
  - 2. Chapters 5-7 Talk One "The Sermon on the Mount"

(The News Kingdom Declared - Beatitudes, Law, Lord's Prayer) Genesis: Creation; Recreation

8,9 Proofs of Jesus' Divinity; The Curse Is Rolled Back

3. Chapter 10 Talk Two "The Sending Of the Twelve" (The New Kingdom Expands)

Exodus: The Greater Exodus, Sabbath Rest in the Midst of Enemies

11.12 Sabbath Enthronement in the Midst of Persecution

4. Chapter 13 Talk 3 "A Bright Future: Kingdom Parables" (The New Kingdom Shall Fill the Earth)

Leviticus: The Reversal of the Curse

14-17 Persecution, Provision, Worldwide Transformational Reversal of the Effects of the Fall Through Doctrine and Confession – We Rule!

5. Chapter 18 Talk Four "Service and Forgiveness" (The Nature of the New Kingdom)

Numbers: An Army of Gracious Servants

6. 23-25 Talk Five "The Old Kingdom Is Judged as the New Kingdom Is Established"

Deuteronomy: The Church Is the New Israel

7. The Great Commission 26-28

Today, we taught the following points from Chapter 13

- 1. This chapter begins with Jesus in a boat on a sea. The last parable is about catching fish. The Kingdom will grow and be made up of people from all nations. In two weeks, on May 15, Pentecost Sunday, we will be stressing World Missions.
- 2. The Parable of the Sower and the Seed, and Jesus' explanation of it. God is sovereign, His Word is VERY important. The Kingdom will grow gradually, but surely, producing great fruit. The following parables help us to interpret this great multiplication of the seed as the growing manifestation of Christ's Kingdom by those who have been given ears to hear the Word of Jesus.

# How We'd Ask You to Help Us This Week

Each week, we will be stressing some character attribute. This week, the character attribute we stressed in class was **Hope**.

Your child's memory verse: **Matthew 4:19**Then He said to them, "Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men."

Parents' Handout

**Lesson 23: Bright Hope for the Future in the Kingdom Parables** Text: Matthew 13

#### What We Did This Week

This week's topic was again "Bright Hope for the Future in the Kingdom Parables of Matthew 13." Your child's class is a survey class of Matthew. The outline we are teaching your child revolves around the five major talks by Jesus. We hope your child is able to memorize the 7 bolded points of the outline below. The italicized notes below each numbered point are for your information.

- 1. Advent of the Savior-King: Jesus as Greater Abraham, David, and Moses (Five Talks, Five Books)
  - 2. Chapters 5-7 Talk One "The Sermon on the Mount"

(The News Kingdom Declared - Beatitudes, Law, Lord's Prayer)

Genesis: Creation; Recreation

8,9 Proofs of Jesus' Divinity; The Curse Is Rolled Back

3. Chapter 10 Talk Two "The Sending Of the Twelve" (The New Kingdom Expands)

Exodus: The Greater Exodus, Sabbath Rest in the Midst of Enemies

11.12 Sabbath Enthronement in the Midst of Persecution

4. Chapter 13 Talk 3 "A Bright Future: Kingdom Parables" (The New Kingdom Shall Fill the Earth)

Leviticus: The Reversal of the Curse

14-17 Persecution, Provision, Worldwide Transformational Reversal of the Effects of the Fall Through Doctrine and Confession – We Rule!

5. Chapter 18 Talk Four "Service and Forgiveness" (The Nature of the New Kingdom)

Numbers: An Army of Gracious Servants

6. 23-25 Talk Five "The Old Kingdom Is Judged as the New Kingdom Is Established"

Deuteronomy: The Church Is the New Israel

7. The Great Commission 26-28

Today, we taught the following points from Chapter 13:

- 1. The world is a wheat field. While bad men who don't believe in Jesus are in the world, it is God's world, and good seed will reproduce.
- 2. The Kingdom will, like a mustard seed, grow slowly, but it will fill the world, all the nations will live in it, not outside of it.
- 3. The Kingdom, like leaven, will change (positively) the whole world. The future is bright!
- 4. There is NOTHING more important than Jesus, His Word, and His Kingdom. It is the greatest Treasure and the pearl of great price.

Each week, we will be stressing some character attribute. This week, the character attribute we stressed in class was, again, **Hope**.

Your child's memory verse: **Matthew 13:33**Another parable He spoke to them: The kingdom of heaven is like leaven, which a woman took and hid in three measures of meal till it was all leavened.

## Parents' Handout

# **Lesson 24:** Persecution and Provision: How Does the Garden Grow? Text:

Matthew 14-17

#### What We Did This Week

This week's topic was "Persecution and Provision: How Does the Garden Grow?" Our text was Matthew 14-17. Your child's class is a survey class of Matthew. The outline we are teaching your child revolves around the five major talks by Jesus. We hope you child is able to memorize the 7 bolded points of the outline below: The italicized notes below each numbered point are for your information.

- 1. Advent of the Savior-King: Jesus as Greater Abraham, David, and Moses (Five Talks, Five Books)
  - 2. Chapters 5-7 Talk One "The Sermon on the Mount"

(The News Kingdom Declared - Beatitudes, Law, Lord's Prayer)

Genesis: Creation; Recreation

8,9 Proofs of Jesus' Divinity; The Curse Is Rolled Back

3. Chapter 10 Talk Two "The Sending Of the Twelve" (The New Kingdom Expands)

Exodus: The Greater Exodus, Sabbath Rest in the Midst of Enemies

11.12 Sabbath Enthronement in the Midst of Persecution

4. Chapter 13 Talk 3 "A Bright Future: Kingdom Parables" (The New Kingdom Shall Fill the Earth)

Leviticus: The Reversal of the Curse

14-17 Persecution, Provision, Worldwide Transformational Reversal of the Effects of the Fall Through Doctrine and Confession – We Rule!

5. Chapter 18 Talk Four "Service and Forgiveness" (The Nature of the New Kingdom)

Numbers: An Army of Gracious Servants 19-22

6. 23-25 Talk Five "The Old Kingdom Is Judged as the New Kingdom Is Established"

Deuteronomy: The Church Is the New Israel

7. The Great Commission 26-28

Today, we taught the following points from Chapters 14-17:

- 1. Persecution: The Beheading of John the Baptist, Jesus' Death Foretold
  The great news of the kingdom parables are put in the context of persecution,
- 2. Provision: The Feeding of the 5,000, the Crossing of the Sea, Many Healings
  While men may persecute us, Jesus will provide for us. He feeds us on the Lord's Day,
  intercedes for us all week long, and heals us (Gentile woman shows worldwide nature of
  the Kingdom).
- 3. Doctrine and Confession: Two Leavens, Peter's Confession
  The basis of the new Kingdom is the doctrine of Christ, contrasted with the leaven, or doctrine, of the Pharisees. The confession of Jesus as the Christ, the Son of God is the "rock" which the church is built upon, and all other Kingdoms shall be destroyed by it.
- 4. Transformation: The Mount of Transfiguration

  Jesus is changing us, so that we can truly behold His glory, and reflect it by deeds of mercy. The effects of the fall are being reversed! With deeds of love and kindness
- 5. Freedom and Submission: Taxes From the Fish
  The section ends with a declaration that we are free, but that we also need to show submission to the rulers established by God.

## How We'd Ask You to Help Us This Week

Each week, we will be stressing some character attribute. This week, the character attribute we stressed in class was **Perseverance**.

Your child's memory verse: Galatians 6:9

And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart."

Parents' Handout

**Lesson 25:** Talk Four "Humility and Forgiveness" Text: Matthew 18

#### What We Did This Week

This week's topic was "Talk Four: Humility and Forgiveness" Our text was Matthew 18. Your child's class is a survey class of Matthew. The outline we are teaching your child revolves around the five major talks by Jesus, of which Chapter 18 is the fourth. We hope you child is able to memorize the 7 bolded points of the outline below: The italicized notes below each numbered point are for your information.

- 1. Advent of the Savior-King: Jesus as Greater Abraham, David, and Moses (Five Talks, Five Books)
  - 2. Chapters 5-7 Talk One "The Sermon on the Mount"

(The News Kingdom Declared - Beatitudes, Law, Lord's Prayer)

Genesis: Creation; Recreation

8,9 Proofs of Jesus' Divinity; The Curse Is Rolled Back

3. Chapter 10 Talk Two "The Sending Of the Twelve" (The New Kingdom Expands)

Exodus: The Greater Exodus, Sabbath Rest in the Midst of Enemies

11.12 Sabbath Enthronement in the Midst of Persecution

4. Chapter 13 Talk 3 "A Bright Future: Kingdom Parables" (The New Kingdom Shall Fill the Earth)

Leviticus: The Reversal of the Curse

14-17 Persecution, Provision, Worldwide Transformational Reversal of the Effects of the Fall Through Doctrine and Confession – We Rule!

5. Chapter 18 Talk Four "Humility and Forgiveness" (The Nature of the New Kingdom)

Numbers: An Army of Gracious Servants 19-22

6. 23-25 Talk Five "The Old Kingdom Is Judged as the New Kingdom Is Established"

Deuteronomy: The Church Is the New Israel

7. The Great Commission 26-28

Today, we taught the following points from Chapter 18:

#### 1. Humility

Verse 4: "Therefore whoever humbles himself as this little child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven." Young children usually know their need for others, they tend to humbly accept instruction, and exercise simple faith in Jesus. All this was contrasted with sinful attitudes that even children can engage in – disobedience, boasting, looking down on others, talking back, not trusting – all marks of pride.

#### 2. Forgiveness

This classic text on Christian discipline was used to teach children to forgive others. This was tied to humility, since the failure to forgive can frequently be traced back to pride. Additionally, your children were taught the process to follow when someone sins against us. Finally, retelling the parable of the King in the last half of the chapter drove home the lesson of forgiveness. Jesus' 70x7 was contrasted with Lamech's never-ending vengeance against any that would wrong him ( Genesis 4:24: If Cain shall be avenged sevenfold, then Lamech seventy-sevenfold). In man's fallen nature, there is no end of vengeance and retribution (ala the Hatfields and the McCoys). But in Christ, there is no end of forgiveness for those who repent of their sins.

Each week, we stress a character trait. This week, the character attribute we stressed in class was **Forgiveness.** 

Your child's memory verse: Ephesians 4:32 **Be ye kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving each other, just as God for Christ's sake has forgiven you.** 

Parents' Handout

## **Lesson 26:** Jesus Blesses Little Children Who Worship Him

#### What We Did This Week

This week's topic was "Jesus Blesses Little Children Who Worship Him" Our text was Matthew 19-22. Your child's class is a survey class of Matthew. The outline we are teaching your child revolves around the five major talks by Jesus. We hope you child is able to memorize the 7 bolded points of the outline below: The italicized notes below each numbered point are for your information.

- 1. Advent of the Savior-King: Jesus as Greater Abraham, David, and Moses (Five Talks, Five Books)
  - 2. Chapters 5-7 Talk One "The Sermon on the Mount"

(The News Kingdom Declared - Beatitudes, Law, Lord's Prayer)

Genesis: Creation; Recreation

8,9 Proofs of Jesus' Divinity; The Curse Is Rolled Back

3. Chapter 10 Talk Two "The Sending Of the Twelve" (The New Kingdom Expands)

Exodus: The Greater Exodus, Sabbath Rest in the Midst of Enemies

11.12 Sabbath Enthronement in the Midst of Persecution

4. Chapter 13 Talk 3 "A Bright Future: Kingdom Parables" (The New Kingdom Shall Fill the Earth)

Leviticus: The Reversal of the Curse

14-17 Persecution, Provision, Worldwide Transformational Reversal of the Effects of the Fall Through Doctrine and Confession – We Rule!

**Text:** Matthew 19-22

5. Chapter 18 Talk Four "Humility and Forgiveness" (The Nature of the New Kingdom)

Numbers: An Army of Gracious Servants

19-22 Jesus Blesses Little Children Who Worship Him

6. 23-25 Talk Five "The Old Kingdom Is Judged as the New Kingdom Is Established"

Deuteronomy: The Church Is the New Israel

7. The Great Commission 26-28

Today, we taught the following points from Chapter 19-22:

- 1. Jesus blesses children, 19:13-15
- 2. The workers in the vineyard parable; the two sons parable 20:1-16; 21:28-32 Grace is extended to repentant sinners, not sinless saints.
- 3. The story of the rich man 19:16-26

Jesus' followers use their money for Him, giving alms to the poor.

- 4. Cleansing of the Temple 21:12,13
  - Jesus' followers are to meet for the purpose of praying for the nations.
- 5. The wedding feast parable 22:1-14

We are to obey the call to the wedding feast, and come dressed appropriately

We reviewed these teachings of Matthew 19-22 in terms of our Lord's Day worship service.

We are called by God to come to church and be blessed by Him.

We are to confess our sins at the beginning of the service and believe that Jesus has forgiven us.

We bring our tithes and offerings to Him after He talks to us in the sermon.

We then join the Elder in our hearts as he prays to God for the nations.

We gladly take part in the Lord's supper, a picture of His wedding feast.

Those who don't come to the Son's marriage feast, and those who come but don't think its very important (those in the parable that didn't dress properly), are both judged by God the Father. But those that come are blessed as they worship Jesus!

#### How We'd Ask You to Help Us This Week

Each week, we stress a character trait. This week, the character attribute we stressed in class was **Praise to God.** 

Your child's memory verse: Matthew 21:16b

From the lips of children and infants You have ordained praise.

Parents' Handout

# **Lesson 27:** The Fifth and Last Talk "The Old Kingdom is Judged as the New Kingdom is Established" Text:

Matthew 23-25

#### What We Did This Week

This week's topic was The Fifth and Last Talk "The Old Kingdom Is Judged as the New Kingdom Is Established." Our text was Matthew 23-25. Your child's class is a survey class of Matthew. The outline we are teaching your child revolves around the five major talks by Jesus. We hope you child is able to memorize the 7 bolded points of the outline below: The italicized notes below each numbered point are for your information.

- 1. Advent of the Savior-King: Jesus as Greater Abraham, David, and Moses (Five Talks, Five Books)
  - 2. Chapters 5-7 Talk One "The Sermon on the Mount"

(The News Kingdom Declared - Beatitudes, Law, Lord's Prayer)

Genesis: Creation; Recreation

8,9 Proofs of Jesus' Divinity; The Curse Is Rolled Back

3. Chapter 10 Talk Two "The Sending Of the Twelve" (The New Kingdom Expands)

Exodus: The Greater Exodus, Sabbath Rest in the Midst of Enemies

11,12 Sabbath Enthronement in the Midst of Persecution

4. Chapter 13 Talk 3 "A Bright Future: Kingdom Parables" (The New Kingdom Shall Fill the Earth)

Leviticus: The Reversal of the Curse

14-17 Persecution, Provision, Worldwide Transformational Reversal of the Effects of the Fall Through Doctrine and Confession – We Rule!

5. Chapter 18 Talk Four "Humility and Forgiveness" (The Nature of the New Kingdom)

Numbers: An Army of Gracious Servants

19-22 Jesus Blesses Little Children Who Worship Him

6. 23-25 Talk Five "The Old Kingdom Is Judged as the New Kingdom Is Established"

Deuteronomy: The Church Is the New Israel

7. The Great Commission 26-28

Today, we taught the following points from Chapter 2:

#### 1. Judgment

While the primary focus of the coming of Jesus is life, the new creation, and the rolling back of the curse, its necessary corollary is judgment. The first talk of Jesus was the Beatitudes, His blessings on His people. That is primary. But this last talk begins with His woes or curses upon the Pharisees, and ends ih a division between goats and sheep, those that are His people and those that aren't, those that go to Hell and those who go to Heaven. When we pray that God's Kingdom might come or be manifest, we are also praying by implication that all other kingdoms be destroyed.

#### 2. The Importance of Benevolent Acts

We used a handout to teach the story of the sheep and the goats found in 25:31-46 Certainly the measure of our acceptance or rejection by Jesus is faith, not works. But Biblical faith is faith that works. If we add the adjective "faithful" to the word works, then we may say that from one perspective we are saved by such "faithful works." (See James 2:24) We tried to give your child a good grasp of the specific categories of people that are

to be the particular focus of our benevolent actions, and also tried to motivate your child to try to be part of the work of the sheep in engaging in such benevolent actions, through their time, money, prayer and labor. To accomplish this, we used the "Benevolences at RCC" handout to illustrate some ways the sheep at RCC are demonstrating their faith in a gracious God, who calls us to graciously minister to others.

#### How We'd Ask You to Help Us This Week

Each week, we stress a character trait. This week, the character attribute we stressed in class was **Benevolence** 

Your child's memory verse: James 1:27

Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world.

# Parents' Handout

Lesson 28: The Great Commission Text: Matthew 26-28

#### What We Did This Week

This week's topic was The Great Commission. Our text was Matthew 26-28. Your child's class is a survey class of Matthew. The outline we are teaching your child revolves around the five major talks by Jesus. We hope you child is able to memorize the 7 bolded points of the outline: The italicized notes below each numbered point are for your information.

- 1. Advent of the Savior-King: Jesus as Greater Abraham, David, and Moses (Five Talks, Five Books)
  - 2. Chapters 5-7 Talk One "The Sermon on the Mount"

(The News Kingdom Declared - Beatitudes, Law, Lord's Prayer)

Genesis: Creation; Recreation

8,9 Proofs of Jesus' Divinity; The Curse Is Rolled Back

3. Chapter 10 Talk Two "The Sending Of the Twelve" (The New Kingdom Expands)

Exodus: The Greater Exodus, Sabbath Rest in the Midst of Enemies

11,12 Sabbath Enthronement in the Midst of Persecution

4. Chapter 13 Talk 3 "A Bright Future: Kingdom Parables" (The New Kingdom Shall Fill the Earth)

Leviticus: The Reversal of the Curse

14-17 Persecution, Provision, Worldwide Transformational Reversal of the Effects of the Fall Through Doctrine and Confession – We Rule!

5. Chapter 18 Talk Four "Humility and Forgiveness" (The Nature of the New Kingdom)

Numbers: An Army of Gracious Servants

19-22 Jesus Blesses Little Children Who Worship Him

6. 23-25 Talk Five "The Old Kingdom Is Judged as the New Kingdom Is Established"

Deuteronomy: The Church Is the New Israel

7. The Great Commission 26-28

Today, we taught the following from Chapters 26-28:

1. Passover, Death and Resurrection

Passover is the time of Christ's crucifixion and resurrection. We reviewed the story of the original Passover.

2. Herod, Egypt and Passover

Early in this Gospel, we learned about Jesus' going to Egypt to escape being killed by Herod. Here at the end, Jesus goes to Passover, where He will be killed. We stressed Jesus' sovereignty is laying down his life at the time of is determination, not man's.

3. Gifts At His Birth and Death

Early in this Gospel, we learned about the gifts the wise men brought Jesus. Here at the end, we learned about the precious perfume with which Mary anointed Jesus. Jesus is our "priceless treasure."

4. Genealogies and Great Commission, The Past and the Future

We drew a correlation between the gospel opening with the past, and ending with the future. We should be optimistic as we think about our future.

5. Worship and Mountain

We ended the lesson by preparing the children for worship. We did this by pointing to the mountain top worship setting for the Great Commission.

How We'd Ask You to Help Us This Week

Each week, we stress a character trait. This week, the character attribute we stressed in class was **optimism**.

Your child's memory verse for this week and next is: Matthew 28:18,19

And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit"

## Parents' Handout

**Lesson 29: Review, Preparation for the Test**Text: None

## What We Did This Week

We spent this week's lesson time reviewing and preparing for a final exam on the Gospel of Matthew. Next Sunday, July 7, we will test your child on three things:

- A. The 7-fold outline of the Gospel of Matthew we have been teaching this year. We hope your child will know the bolded material on the following outline:
  - 1. Advent of the Savior-King: Jesus as Greater Abraham, David, and Moses (five books, five talks)
    - 2. Chapters 5-7 Talk One "The Sermon on the Mount"

(The News Kingdom Declared - Beatitudes, Law, Lord's Prayer)

Genesis: Creation; Recreation

8,9 Proofs of Jesus' Divinity; The Curse Is Rolled Back

3. Chapter 10 Talk Two "The Sending Of the Twelve" (The New Kingdom Expands)

Exodus: The Greater Exodus, Sabbath Rest in the Midst of Enemies

11,12 Sabbath Enthronement in the Midst of Persecution

**4. Chapter 13 Talk 3 "A Bright Future: Kingdom Parables"** (The New Kingdom Shall Fill the Earth)

Leviticus: The Reversal of the Curse

14-17 Persecution, Provision, Worldwide Transformational Reversal of the Effects of the Fall Through Doctrine and Confession – We Rule!

**5. Chapter 18 Talk Four "Humility and Forgiveness"** (The Nature of the New Kingdom)

Numbers: An Army of Gracious Servants

19-22 Jesus Blesses Little Children Who Worship Him

6. 23-25 Talk Five "The Old Kingdom Is Judged as the New Kingdom Is Established"

Deuteronomy: The Church Is the New Israel

#### 7. The Great Commission 26-28

B. The Beatitudes - Matthew 5:3-12

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

Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted.

Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth.

Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.

Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God.

Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake. Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you.

C. The Lord's Prayer Matthew 6:9-13

After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

The test on July 7 will be oral. On July 14, we will begin teaching through the book of Genesis.

## How We'd Ask You to Help Us This Week

Each week, we stress a character trait. This week, the character attribute we stressed in class was **diligence**, **p**articularly in studying for next Sunday's test! Please review the 3 items your child will be tested on.

Your child's memory verse for this week is: Matthew 28:18,19

And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit"

Parents' Handout

Lesson 30: Matthew Test, Genesis Intro

Text: None

#### What We Did This Week

We spent this week's lesson time testing the children in the Gospel of Matthew. The test covered our 7-opat outline of Matthew, the Beatitudes and the Lord's Prayer. A perfect score would be 30 points, 10 for each of the three parts of the test.

While each child was being individually tested, the rest of the children were doing 4 activity pages. These activity pages covered Creation, Adam, Noah, and Abraham. We will begin teaching the book of Genesis next Lord's Day. Our basic outline for Genesis is:

# Chapters 1-6 ADAM

(Adamic Covenant, Eden, Creation and 3 Falls)

(The three falls are Adam, Cain and the Sethites [sons of God]. They represent sins against the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, in that order. These correlate with the first 3 commandments)

# Chapters 7-11 NOAH

(Noahic Covenant, Ararat, Recreation and Re-fall)

(Noah, whose name means "rest" is a new Adam. Ham is a new Adam/Cain, however; and the Shemites who traveled to the Tower of Babel area are new Sethites.)

#### Chapters 12-50 ABRAHAM

Abrahamic Covenant, Moriah (eventually the Temple mount, see 2 Chr. 3:1)

3 Recoveries

Abraham – the *patience* towards God that Adam lacked

Jacob – the brotherly kindness to one's fellow man that Cain lacked

Joseph – the *holiness* in the face of other peoples that the Sethites lacked.

World Saved Through Joseph, brought to rest, Sabbath enthronement and bread for the world (4<sup>th</sup> commandment)

#### How We'd Ask You to Help Us This Week

Over the four or five months we will spend on Genesis, we will stress the character traits of rest, patience, kindness and holiness. We begin this week by stressing rest, particularly in regards to the proper observance of the Lord's Day, the Christina Sabbath.

Your child's memory verse for the next few weeks is: Genesis 1:1-3

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. 2 Now the earth was <u>formless and empty, darkness</u> was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters. 3 And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light.

# {We will be talking about the seven days of creation in relationship to forming, filling and lighting.}

# **Gospel of Matthew**

6 & 7 Year Old Class

Name	
Score	

#### Test

- 1. Advent of the Savior-King: Jesus as Greater Abraham, David, and Moses (5 Talks, 5 Books)
- 2. Talk 1, Chapters 5-7:

"The Sermon on the Mount"

3. Talk 2. Chapter 10:

"The Sending Of the Twelve" (The New Kingdom Expands)

4. Talk 3, Chapter 13:

"A Bright Future: Kingdom Parables" (New Kingdom Shall Fill the Earth)

5. Talk 4, Chapter 18:

"Humility and Forgiveness" (The Nature of the New Kingdom)

6. Talk 5, Chapters 23-25:

"The Old Kingdom Is Judged as the New Kingdom Is Established"

7. Chapters 26-28: "The Great Commission"

**The Beatitudes:** Matthew 5:3-12

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

Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted.

Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth.

Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.

Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God.

Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake.

Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you.

# The Lord's Prayer: Matthew 6:9-13

After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.