



## The Risen King

Q68V2W1

April 1, 2018

**Lesson Text:** Matthew 27:54-66, 28; Mark 16; Luke 24; John 19:38-42, 20, 21

The death of Jesus affected many. Roman centurions who watched Jesus die said, "Truly this was the Son of God."

Nicodemus and Joseph of Arimathea, who was a disciple and wealthy Jewish man, wrapped the body of Jesus in fine linen with spices and laid him in a new rock tomb in a garden.

Jewish religious leaders were scared something would happen to Jesus, so they sealed the tomb and asked soldiers to stand guard.

Early Sunday morning an angel visited Earth and rolled the stone from the door. He was as bright as lightning and the soldiers guarding the tomb were so afraid that they fell on the ground.

Several women arrived at the tomb that same morning to anoint Jesus with sweet spices. They wondered how they would roll the stone away, but when they arrived the tomb was open and an angel sat inside. He said, "Fear not. I know you seek Jesus. He is not here, He is risen. You will see him just as he told you."

Jesus appeared to many people after His glorious resurrection. First, to Mary Magdalene. She tried to tell the disciples, but they did not believe her. Then Jesus appeared unto two men on the road to Emmaus. These men also told the other disciples, but no one believed them. Finally, Jesus appeared to the eleven

as they ate dinner. They were afraid, and he said, "Peace be unto you."

Jesus scolded them for not believing or having faith. He explained the Scriptures and how the prophecies were fulfilled.

Jesus appeared unto several of the disciples at the sea of Tiberias one early morning after they had fished all night. He called to them from the shore and told them to cast their nets on the other side. After they obeyed, they caught so many fish they had to drag the nets to shore.

Finally, he led the disciples to Bethany and blessed them. He told them to wait in Jerusalem until they received the Holy Spirit and after they received the Holy Spirit they were to go into all the world and preach the gospel to every person. As he blessed them, he ascended into Heaven.

Go into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. Mark 16:15

- Why do you think the Roman soldiers believed Jesus was the Son of God after watching him die?
- Did the stone door that the religious leaders used to seal the tomb stop Jesus from rising from the dead?
- What did the angel tell the women who visited the empty tomb?
- Have you thought about how to be a light for Jesus? Sing the song "Jesus Wants Me for a Sunbeam" with your class.

## The Great Commission

Many young faces stare in rapt attention at Miss Charlotte as she finishes up the Sunday School lesson about Jesus rising from the dead.

"Our King is Jesus, and He has a special message for each one of you," Charlotte says. "Jesus told his disciples to go into all the world and preach the gospel. You are also a disciple."

"But how can we be disciples for Jesus? My family doesn't travel much, and the whole world is such a big place" little Maryanne asks.

"My family travels to France every summer," spoiled Amy announces.

"Are you a light for Jesus in France?" Timothy quips.

Amy glares at Timmy and the class giggles.

Charlotte smiles at Maryanne. "Sweetie, Jesus has a ministry for you right here in Timber Springs. Some day He may call you to missionary work far from home, but there is a great need for missionary work right here. Some people are hungry, alone, and in

need of a friend. Others think they have everything they need, but their heart is empty. You can be a light for Jesus and win souls to Him."

"But how?" Violet asks.

"Well, you children spend your time at home, at school, in town, and with friends. At home, you can be obedient to your parents and kind to your siblings. At school, you can watch out for any lonely little boy or girl who would love for you to be their friend. Jesus wants you to be kind to everyone, not just people like you.

"In town, you can look for an elderly person who may need help carrying groceries. If you see something on the floor in a store, pick it up and place it where it belongs. Visit nursing homes and sing songs, help your mother cook food for a hungry family. If you're playing with friends and someone says something mean about another person, be brave enough to stand up and say, 'that isn't right.' Jesus will help you find ways to minister for him."

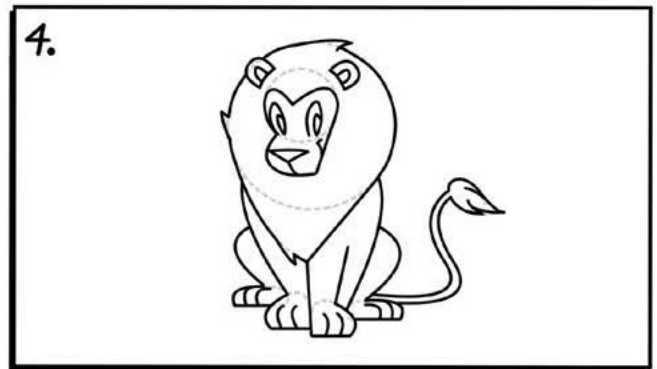
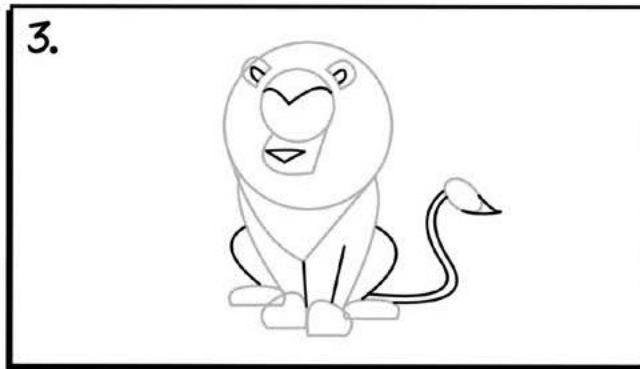
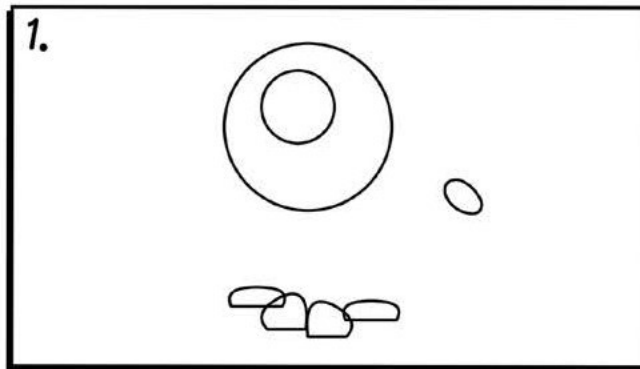
That week, the children in Miss Charlotte's Sunday School class brought joy to many people of Timber Springs.

Karissa Carver

# Learn to Draw...

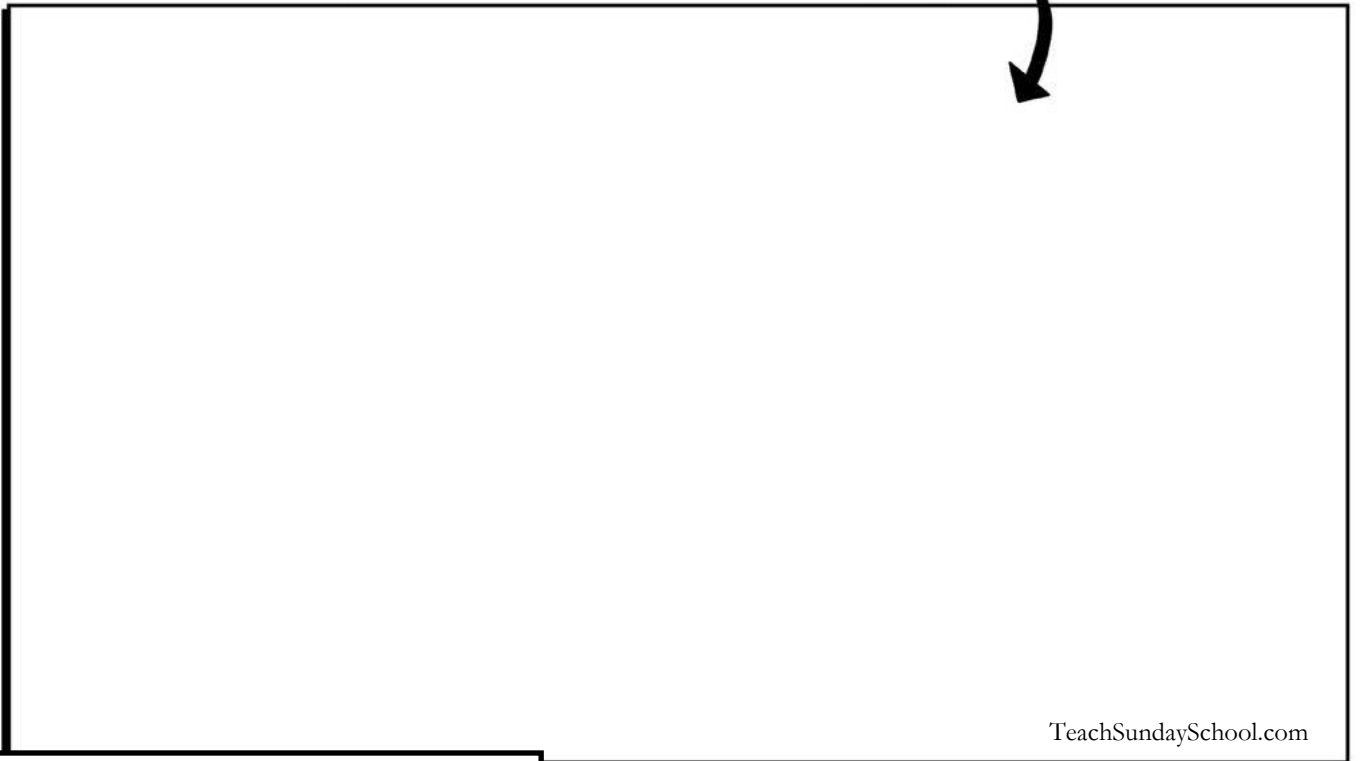
## LION

Use a pencil,  
Erase LINE after step 4



Jesus is called the Lion of Judah - Revelation 5:5

Now it's Your turn!



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## Beautiful Blessings

Q68V2W2

April 8, 2018

**Lesson Text:** Matthew 4:23-25, 5:1-16. Luke 6:17-23

Jesus began his ministry in Galilee. He taught the gospel and healed the sick. Many people heard of Jesus and followed him around the country. One day, a large crowd gathered around Jesus. He found a place to sit and preached what would be called the Sermon on the Mount. This beautiful sermon, which we will be studying, began with the Beatitudes.

The Beatitudes paint a picture of a Christian filled with the spirit of the Lord. When we live for Jesus, there are blessings we receive.

Jesus blesses those who know how much they need Him. Sometimes we think we have everything we need, but He wants us to understand that we can only be happy through Him.

Jesus comforts people who are sad about their sins and want more of Him in their life.

Christians who are gentle, not proud, will inherit blessings in life.

Jesus will feed the souls of people who are hungry and thirsty for His word.

Christians who are merciful to others will also find mercy.

The pure in heart, not the people who look pure on the outside but are full of corruption on the inside, will be a temple for God.

Peacemakers are people who look for ways to bring peace. They do not stir the pot. Jesus said they will be the children of God.

Sometimes people persecute Christians, like lying, hurting, making fun or saying mean words, for doing the right thing. Jesus said the people who are persecuted for Him will enjoy the kingdom of Heaven.

Jesus also talked to the people about salt and lights. Salt preserves food and keeps it from going bad, so a Christian living for God can help salt the world and save other people. Christians who do not have God's spirit are like salt that has no taste – they won't be able to help others.

Christians are also like lights. A bright city full of lights is easy to see in the dark. A Christian's life should shine in the darkness and bring glory to God.

The path of the just is as the shining light.

Proverbs 4:18a

- What are blessings?
- Do you enjoy talking to Jesus like you enjoy eating lunch?
- Why does Jesus say Christians are like the salt of the earth?
- Read the story of the Pharisee and the Publican. Who was pure in heart? Who looked pure on the outside but was filled with pride on the inside?

## The Light of the World

Miss Blanche slips into church a few minutes after the first song starts. She doesn't want everyone knowing she's there. She sits on a back bench.

Blanche is new in town. She traveled to Oregon from California looking for work. She has no family, no friends, and is quite lonely.

A few weeks ago, at the general store, Mrs. Knelson invited her to attend Timber Springs' church service. Blanche is wary of church and so-called Christians. She tried going to a church in her old town, but the people ignored her since she was an unknown person to them.

But Mrs. Knelson was warm and friendly, and it made Blanche feel good. After a few Sundays of sitting at home feeling very lonely, Blanche decided to see what Mrs. Knelson's church was all about.

She picks up a hymnal and finds the song the congregation is singing. She recognizes it from her childhood, and something warm and comforting soothes her tired soul.

During the message, Blanche listens closely. The minister uses the text from Luke 6:20-23. She especially likes the verse, "Blessed are ye that weep now: for ye shall laugh. Blessed are ye, when men shall hate you, and when they shall separate you from their company.... Rejoice ye in that day, and leap for joy: for, behold, your reward is great in heaven."

"That's exactly what happened to me!" Blanche thinks. She looks at the faces in the church. Some don't seem to be paying attention and a few are falling asleep, but many are reading along in their Bible or watching the minister. Their faces shine with peace and happiness.

After service, Blanche shyly stands. She decides not to run out before anyone can speak to her, because she's curious about these people and yearns for friendship and something more that sits way deep in her soul.

Mrs. Knelson spots her and quickly makes her way to Blanche. She welcomes her with a hug, and promptly introduces her to many other congregants. Blanche is a little overwhelmed by all the introductions and greetings but feels safe and comforted by these kind people.

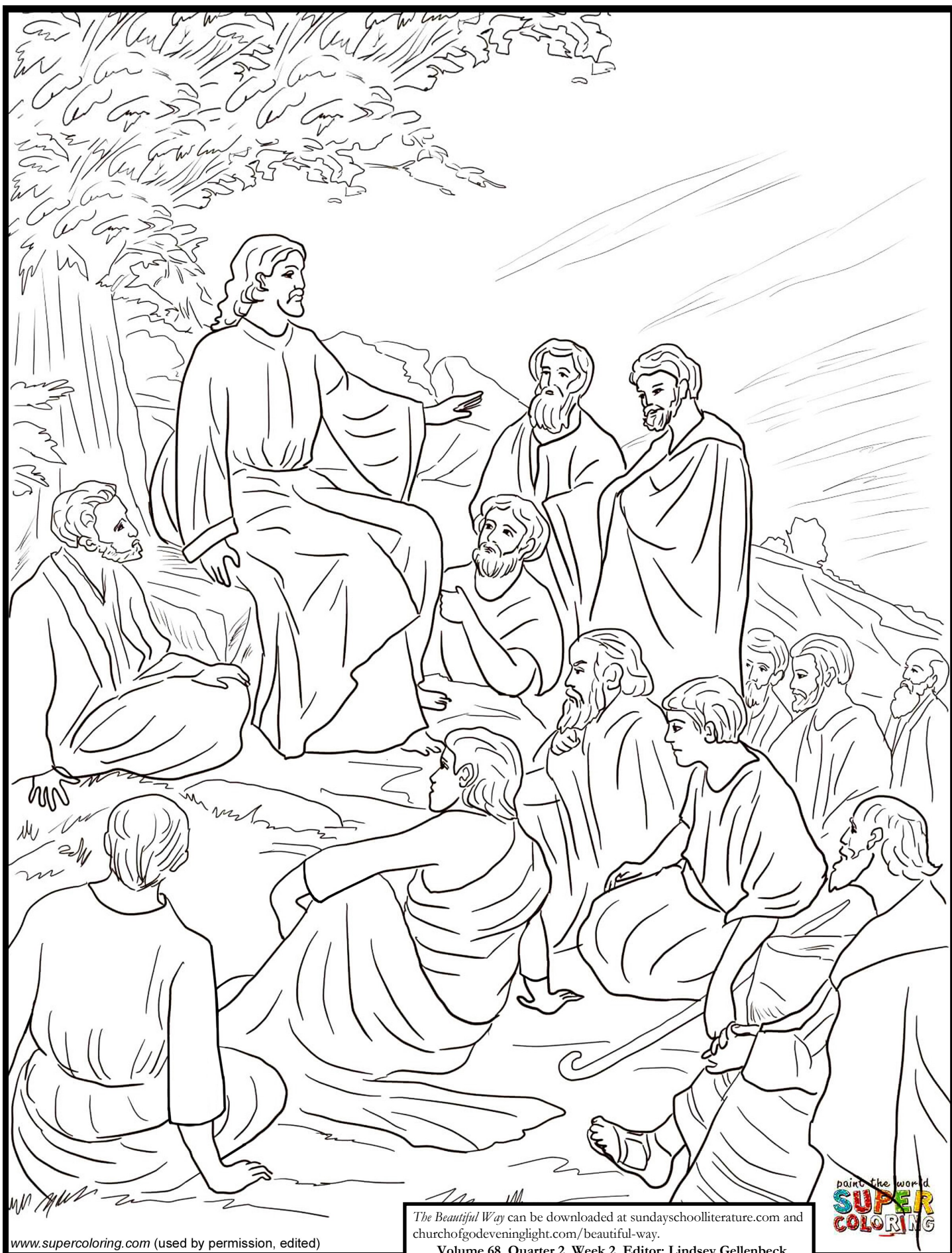
She eats lunch with Mrs. Knelson, and as she walks back to her little house there is a spring in her step that wasn't there that morning.

Arriving home, Blanche hurries to her only trunk of belongings and searches for something. Near the bottom, she finds it.

Slowly, she pulls a worn, black leather Bible from the trunk. It was her mother's. A tear glistens in her eye, but she turns the pages until she finds Matthew 5, the passage Mrs. Knelson encouraged her to read.

Blanche reads for a long time, and the comforting spirit of the Lord begins to fill the ache in her soul.

Karissa Carver



The Beautiful Way can be downloaded at [sundayschoolliterature.com](http://sundayschoolliterature.com) and [churchofgodeveninglight.com/beautiful-way](http://churchofgodeveninglight.com/beautiful-way).

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paint the world  
**SUPER**  
COLORING





## Poor in Spirit

Q68V2W3  
April 15, 2018

**Lesson Text:** Matthew 5:03, Luke 6:20, Jeremiah 29:12-13

The Sermon on the Mount begins with Jesus saying, "Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of Heaven."

The Bible says a multitude of people from Judea and Jerusalem and from the sea coast areas of Tyre and Sidon had gathered to hear Jesus speak. Many different people would have been in attendance. Some were wealthy, some were poor. All wanted to hear the words of Jesus.

Jesus begins his sermon by reminding the people that it is those who are poor in spirit who will inherit Heaven. What does this mean?

A person who is poor in spirit knows how much they need God. They know they don't have a good enough heart on their own, and that it is only through God that they can be saved.

This verse made sense to the people who didn't have a lot of money, because they knew what it felt like to need something they could not afford.

It also made sense to the people who had plenty of money, because it was a reminder to them that even though they could take care of their earthly needs, they could never have enough to take care of their spiritual needs.

The opposite of being poor in spirit is someone who believes they have everything spiritually they need on their own. They are proud and self-righteous and will not inherit Heaven's blessings.

People with a lot of money and people without money can be proud and self-righteous. Jesus is calling to every person in this first verse, reminding them of the importance of recognizing their need.

Jeremiah 29:12-14 says that when we pray and seek God with all our heart, He will be there for us.

I am poor and needy; yet the Lord thinketh  
upon me: thou art my helper and deliverer.  
Psalm 40:17

- Can you think of people in the Bible who wanted to serve God?
- How does praying before meals help keep us poor in spirit?
- Is Jesus pleased when you don't want to share your toys with your siblings?
- Would it be right for you to think you are better than someone who doesn't go to your church? What is the only way you will get to Heaven?

## A Sad Night

One Sunday after church, Amy invites Violet and a few other girls to her birthday party Friday night. The girls are very excited. Even though Amy can be annoying, they all like birthday parties.

"Who wants to go to a girl's party!" Timothy teases. "Yeah!" A few other boys chime in. "We'd rather meet at the top of the hill and ride bikes."

The boys huddle in a circle, enthusiastically planning their own get-together.

Friday evening finally arrives. Kathryn drops Violet off and reminds her she will be back around 8 pm.

The girls admire Amy's room, and squeal in delight as they race down the grand staircase in sleeping bags.

Amy's mother finally enters the main room where the girls are on the floor, breathless and laughing.

"Girls, let's eat some dinner now," she says in an irritated tone. As soon as the girls sit down, she hurries out of the room.

"Won't your mom eat with us?" Violet asks Amy.

"No, she eats her meals by herself," Amy says uncomfortably.

The girls finish their cucumber and turkey sandwiches.

"Do you have a cake, Amy?" Zoe Aldana, the oldest girl there, asks.

"Yes!" Amy says happily. "My mom said it is in the fridge."

"Shouldn't we get her before we sing 'Happy Birthday?'" a concerned Zoe says.

Amy starts to shake her head. A door opens, slams, and then the girls hear the Carter parents arguing. The voices get louder.

The girls stare at each other. Zoe quickly goes to the fridge and finds the cake. She can't find any candles. Amy stares at her feet miserably. She fights the tears brimming in her eyes.

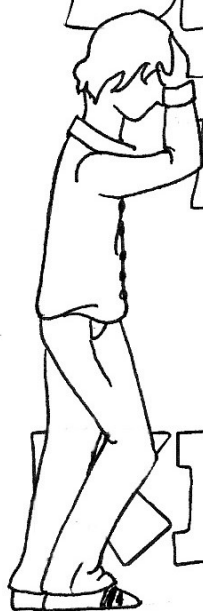
The girls sing 'Happy Birthday' and Zoe serves Amy a large piece of cake.

Violet tells her mom what happened on the drive home. "I thought Amy was the happiest girl alive because it looked like she has everything she wants. But her parents don't even pay attention to her! They just give her nice things and think that's enough. Can I ask her to spend the night with me one night?"

"That would be a wonderful idea," Kathryn says and squeezes her daughter's hand.

Karissa Carver

BLESSED ARE  
THE POOR IN  
SPIRIT: FOR  
THEIR IS  
THE  
KINGDOM OF  
HEAVEN.





## Blessed are They Who Mourn

Q68V2W4

April 22, 2018

**Lesson Text:** Matthew 5:4, Luke 4:16-21, Luke 15:11-32, Psalm 34:18, Psalm 147:3

"Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted." This was the second truth Jesus spoke during the Sermon on the Mount.

No one wants to be sad, and Jesus can turn your sadness into happiness better than anyone or anything else can. What makes you sad? Maybe you lost your favorite toy, or your friend doesn't want to play with you anymore.

Jesus will comfort you in these times, but the words He spoke in His sermon are talking about people who are sad because of their own sin.

Are you as sad when you do wrong as you are when someone else does something wrong?

Jesus wants you to be truly sorry when you sin, not just say a quick prayer because you want to get back to playing or say a quick "sorry" because you want to get out of trouble.

When you are truly sorry, you mourn because you know your sins will keep you out of Heaven. Thankfully, Jesus says "blessed are they who mourn, for they shall be comforted."

When you are very sorry for your sins and want Jesus to take

away all your disobedience, selfishness and bad thoughts, Jesus will comfort your spirit and help you live for Him.

Do you remember the story of the prodigal son? He left his father so he could live selfishly. But one day, he ran out of money and food. He started to realize how much he had sinned and he was very sad. He traveled back to his father's home and told his father that he had sinned and didn't deserve to be his son. He was very sorrowful. But the father knew his son was mourning his sins, and he forgave him and threw a big party in celebration of his son's return home.

This is what Jesus wants to do for you when you repent of your sins.

And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes. Revelation 21:4

- Do you take time to ask Jesus for forgiveness when you do wrong?
- Can you think of people in the Bible who were sorry for their sins?
- If you find yourself doing the same wrong deed over and over, have you truly repented of that sin?
- Who is the only one who can save us from our sin?

## Jack's New Family

Violet's eyes snap open as soon as the morning light fills her bedroom. She makes her bed and changes into the dress her mother picked out the night before. Then she runs to the kitchen.

Anderson and Kathryn grin at each other.

"Good morning, sweetie. Let's eat our breakfast and then get on the road. We don't want to be late!"

Soon, the Mackey family is loaded into Anderson's pick-up. Violet bounces in excitement. It seems like the drive down the mountain into town takes twice as long as usual.

Anderson pulls to a stop in front of Mrs. Knelson's house. He gets out and before he can knock Jack swings the front door open. Mrs. Knelson is right behind him, laughing.

Anderson and Mrs. Knelson say a few words, then she waves to Kathryn and Violet. Stooping down to hug Jack, she holds him close for a few moments.

It is time.

Jack walks down the porch steps, trying his best to look grown-up and solemn. But as soon as he sees Violet, a big grin splits his face and he runs to the truck.

The drive to Portland is uneventful, and finally they arrive at the courthouse.

Paperwork is filled out, the necessary hearings are completed, and it is time for Jack to officially become part of the Mackey family.

His heart swells under his striped Sunday shirt and his throat feels tight. He is just a little boy, but his life has been full of sadness and loss. Until now. He loves Anderson, Kathryn and Violet. He says a silent prayer of thanksgiving to Jesus.

*"Thank you, Jesus, for watching over me. Thank you for bringing me here. Thank you for the people of Timber Springs and how they've taught me about you and helped me be happy again. But most importantly, thank you for saving me from my sins. I want to live for you every day of my life."*

The judge smiles at the family and says, "Congratulations, Mr. Jack Mackey. These people love you so very much."

Jack turns to his new family. Everyone's eyes are bright with happy tears. He rushes to Anderson and buries his head into his new father's broad chest.

Karissa Carver

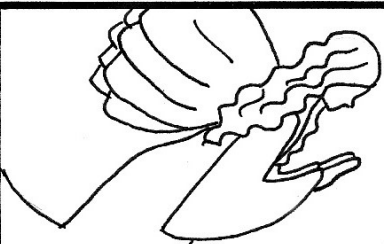
"Something beautiful, something good

All my confusion He understood


All I had to offer Him was brokenness and strife

But he made something beautiful of my life."

- Something Beautiful, Bill Gaither



**BLESSED ARE  
THEY THAT  
MOURN:  
FOR THEY  
SHALL BE  
COMFORTED.**







## Blessed are the Meek

Q68V2W5  
April 29, 2018

**Lesson Text:** Matthew 5:5, Galatians 5:22-23, 1 Peter 3:4

Jesus used easy-to-understand words and concepts as he preached the Sermon on the Mount. He was not trying to confuse the listeners with complicated, rambling speech. He wasted no words and got right to the point.

The third point he made says, "Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth."

To be meek means to be gentle. It is easy to speak to meek people, because they are willing to listen to you. The opposite of meekness is pride. Pride has a few meanings, but sinful pride is when you think you are better than other people. It's hard for someone to talk to you if you are full of sinful pride, because you don't want to listen to anyone but yourself.

Sinful pride is different from feeling pride, or joy, over an accomplishment like learning to play an instrument or doing well in school. Sinful pride is feeling puffed up because you think you are better than other people. Good pride could also be called satisfaction. It makes you feel happy and joyful when you finish your chores or get a good grade. You can also be proud of your friends or siblings when they do something well.

Jesus doesn't want you to have any sinful pride in your heart. Instead, He wants the space in your heart that used to be full of sin to be turned into meekness.

Meekness is part of the fruits of the spirit. Have you heard of the fruits of the spirit before? They are characteristics of a Christian, listed in Galatians 5:22-23.

1 Peter 3:4 says God views a meek spirit as very valuable.

How does a meek person behave? They don't get upset when something doesn't go their way. They never think they are better than someone else. They know that God created every man, woman and child equal, and so they treat every person with respect and kindness.

Follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness. 1 Timothy 6:11

- If you can count to 100 but your friend is excited about learning to count to 50, is it meek to stay quiet and celebrate their success with them or loudly tell them you can count higher?
- What is sinful pride?
- Are certain people more important than others, or does God see all of us equally?
- Think of some ways that you can choose to be meek rather than proud.

## A Proud Look

The Mackey's drive to church as a family of four. Violet is very proud of her new older brother, and Jack likes being able to call her his sister.

Once Sunday School begins, they rush off to their different classes. Violet's class is reciting scriptures today, and she has worked diligently to learn her passage.

She is the first volunteer and recites her verses without any mistakes. She glows with satisfaction as Miss Charlotte praises her accomplishment. Then she sits down and waits to hear the other children recite their verses.

But as Violet sits in her chair and listens, she starts feeling better than the other children. Many are nervous and make a mistake or two. A pleased expression forms on her young face. Miss Charlotte notices and frowns but doesn't say anything.

Then Corey Jones stands up. He walks to the front of the class, opens his mouth and promptly forgets his entire verse. Miss Charlotte gently helps him, but he is flustered and can't think straight.

Violet laughs out loud.

"Shame on you, Violet," Miss Charlotte says firmly. Her eyes are sad, and Violet instantly regrets laughing. "I'd like to talk to you after class," Miss Charlotte says quietly in her ear.

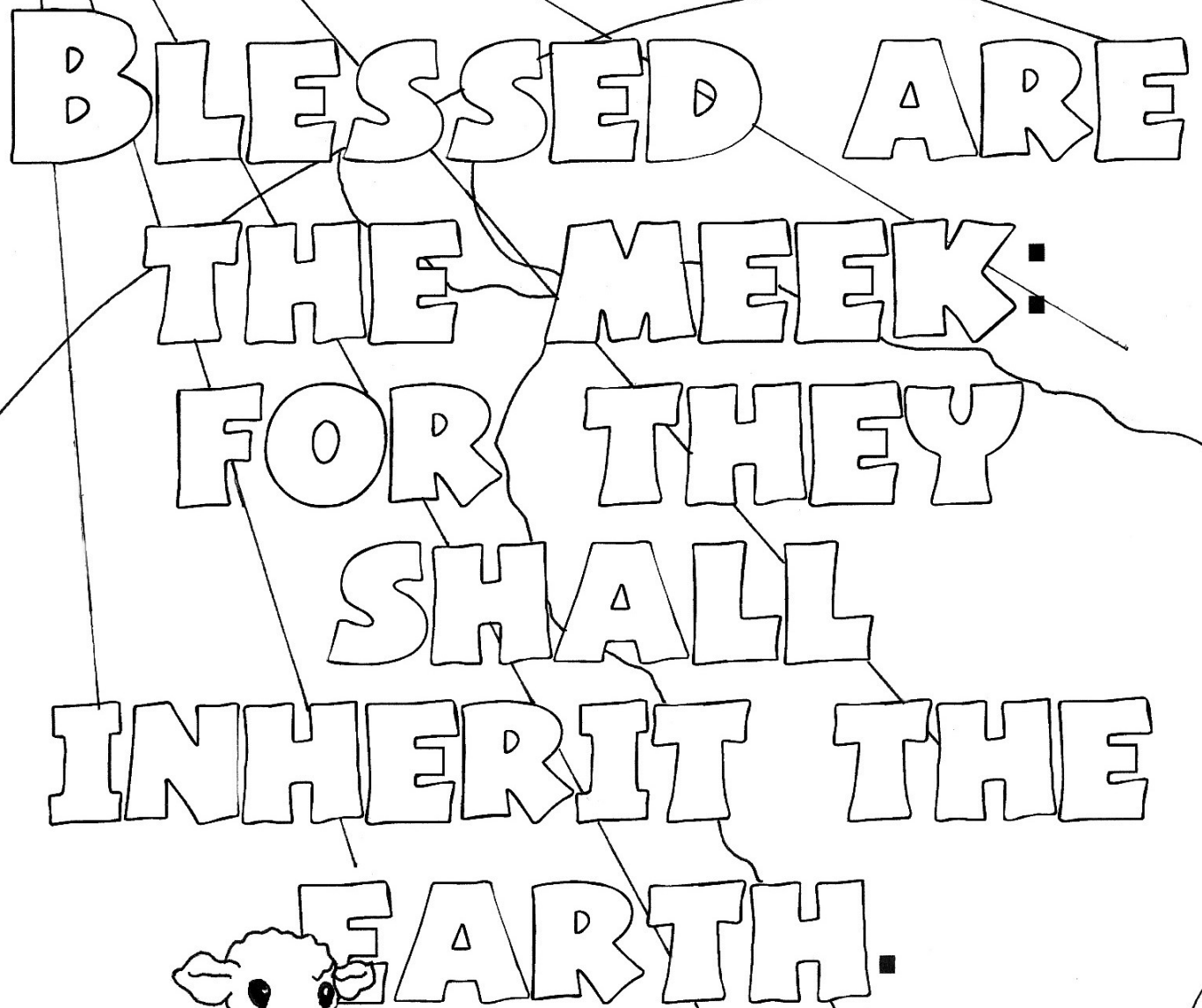
After the other children file out and Miss Charlotte makes sure they all have a place to sit in the front, taking special care to slip Corey his verse on a slip of paper, Miss Charlotte walks back to her classroom. She closes the door, pulls up a chair and holds Violet's hand.

"Violet, it's okay to feel good that you recited your passage of scripture so well, but the pride that you showed was different from healthy pride. You thought you were better than the other children, didn't you?"

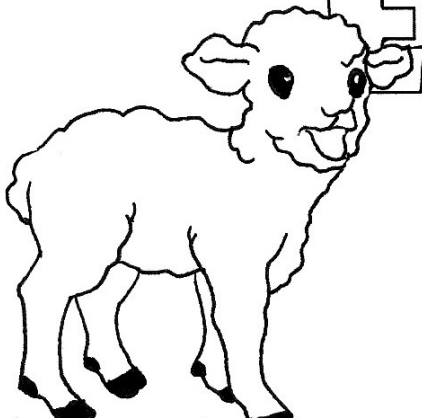
Violet blushes a deep scarlet.

"And honey, you laughed at Corey when he forgot his verse. He may not show it, but no one feels good when they are laughed at in a mean way. He was trying to recite Proverbs 6:17, which says God is not happy when we wear a proud look. Instead, he wants us to be meek, or gentle. I'd like you to apologize to Corey, and also memorize his verse for next Sunday."

Karissa Carver



BLESSED ARE  
THE MEEK:  
FOR THEY  
SHALL  
INHERIT THE  
EARTH.





## Hungry and Thirsty

Q68V2W6

May 6, 2018

**Lesson Text:** Matthew 5:6, John 6:35, 47-51, John 4:7-14

"I'm hungry. I'm thirsty!"

How often do you say this? Probably pretty often! Your stomach likes to remind you it's hungry with a few, or many, loud growls! Your mouth gets dry when you need some water.

This week, the verse from the Beatitudes says, "Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled."

Did you know that your soul needs spiritual food and drink just like your body needs regular food and drink to be healthy and grow?

How do you feed your soul? Reading your Bible, praying to Jesus, going to church and singing songs are all ways to feed your soul. Jesus said the people who look for ways to feed their soul will be blessed.

What would happen if you didn't have enough food to eat? Your body would be hungry and you would not grow very well. The same thing happens to your soul when you don't give it enough spiritual food. You begin to feel empty inside, because you are missing Jesus.

Jesus says that He is the bread of life, and that anyone who comes to Him will not hunger and all who believe on Him

will not thirst. He also says that He is the living bread and that all who eat of His spiritual bread will live forever.

Do you remember the story of the woman by the well? She came to the well to draw water to drink, and Jesus told her he had spiritual water for her that would cause her to never be thirsty again. He has the same water for you.

Jesus doesn't mean that you will never be thirsty for the water that comes out of your kitchen sink or water fountain again, but that your soul will always be filled as long as Jesus lives in your heart.

When we fill our souls with spiritual food and drink, we will fill our souls with Jesus. When our souls are full of Jesus, we will be able to go to Heaven.

Verily, verily I say unto you, He that believeth on me hath everlasting life. John 6:47

- Do you need to feed your soul like you need to feed your stomach?
- What are some things you can do to feed your soul spiritual food and drink?
- How will you start to feel if you don't have spiritual food?
- Will your soul grow strong and healthy if you feed it anything other than Jesus' word?

## Free and Happy as a Bird

Jack sits on a branch of an apple tree. He munches on the carrot sticks and sandwich Kathryn handed him on his way out the door.

He'd told her he'd like to explore the land, and he is having so much fun.

Annie and Arthur munch on their food a few feet away. Arthur flicks his tail and runs around the pasture. Annie watches him and moos contentedly.

Jack stretches out on the branch and breathes in the sweet perfume of early summer. The earth is alive with insect sounds, blooming flowers and trees. In the distance, he hears the rushing water fed from the cold mountain springs.

He dreams of the fort he wants to build in the woods, and all the trails he plans to forge through the thick trees. Anderson told him they could go kayaking one day, and the

family is planning a day trip to Timberline Lodge soon.

Jack has only heard about Timberline Lodge. He can't wait to visit. Timber Springs isn't too far from the lodge, but as is the case with many mountain people, they stay close to home.

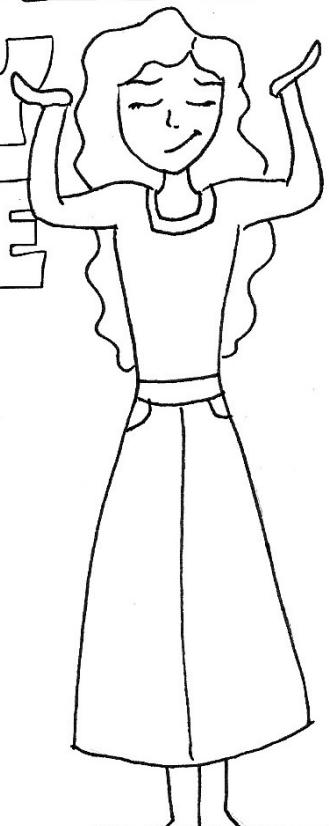
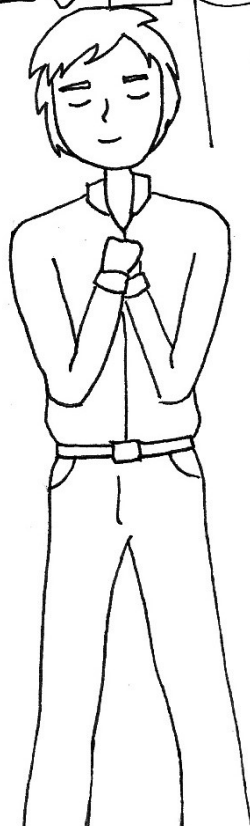
After a long day, Jack walks back to the house. He informs Anderson and Kathryn that he'd like to go back outside after dinner and play some more.

"Son," Anderson says kindly, "Lord willing, you can play outside again tomorrow. But by the time you and Violet help Kathryn clean the kitchen and I finish my chores, it will be time for our devotions. We must take the time to feed our souls on God's word and spirit. Keeping Jesus in our hearts keeps our hearts alive with joy and happiness."

The family takes turns praying after devotions. Jack thanks God for his new home and the land that he enjoys so much. He asks Jesus to help him keep his soul fed and alive.

Karissa Carver

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## Blessed are the Merciful

Q68V2W7

May 13, 2018

**Lesson Text:** Matthew 5:7, 7:1-5, 18:21-35

The next verse from Jesus' sermon says "Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy."

Mercy is compassion and forgiveness. The verse means that if you show mercy to others, Jesus will show mercy to you.

The apostle Peter asked Jesus how often he should forgive people who do wrong. Jesus replied with this story.

The kingdom of heaven is like a king who looked at all his servants. The king realized that one servant owed him a lot of money. He commanded that the servant, his wife, his children and all his possessions be sold to cover his debt.

The servant fell at the king's feet and said, "Lord, have patience with me, and I will pay you."

The king felt compassion for the servant and forgave him the entire debt! The servant left rejoicing. He was very happy that the king showed him mercy.

Then the servant saw one of his friends. This friend owed him just a little bit of money, far less than what the servant had owed the king. The servant grabbed his friend by the throat and said, "Pay me what you owe."

His friend fell at his feet and begged him, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you."

But the servant man would not listen and cast him into prison. The king heard about what happened and was very angry. He called the servant back to him and said, "You wicked man. I forgave your great debt, and you cannot forgive this man his small debt? Why did you not show kindness to him like I showed to you?"

Then the king delivered the ungrateful servant into prison.

Jesus ended the story by saying, "If you do not forgive, how can my Father forgive you?"

Thou art a God ready to pardon, gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness.

Nehemiah 9:17

- What is mercy?
- Does Jesus forgive you when you ask for mercy?
- Do you forgive other people when they ask for mercy?
- Can you remember a time when someone forgave you?

## Tools and Wooden Blocks

Anderson and Jack work steadily in Anderson's tool shed. Anderson is showing Jack his table saw. Jack watches eagerly as Anderson teaches him about the wiring and bearings.

Jack is fascinated with all the tools, the heavy bags of feed and the smell of dirt and grease that cling to the building. He smiles up at Anderson, and Anderson tousles his hair affectionately.

After a while, Jack walks over to a toolbox. There are so many handles and compartments! Jack pulls out a tray full of different nuts and bolts. Anderson has the different sizes sorted and organized. Jack stands up with the tray, but he trips and the tray crashes to the floor. Nuts and bolts ping onto the concrete floor and roll in every direction.

Jack hangs his head in embarrassment.

Anderson gives him a wry grin and says, "Looks like you'll be busy for a while. Pick your chin up, Jack. Everything is ok."

By the time Anderson finishes repairing his table saw and Jack finishes tracking down the scattered hardware it is time for lunch. They head to the house just as it starts to rain.

After lunch, Jack decides to stay inside and play with his wooden blocks.

He brings the blocks into the living room and builds a village. Then he starts on a car.

Violet wants to see his village. She leans over the car to get a better look, and accidentally bumps the side of the car with her toe. The blocks tumble to the floor.

"Oh, Jack, I'm sorry! I didn't mean to!"

But Jack is angry at Violet. Now he has to start on the car all over again.

"Just go away, Violet," he says crossly. "I don't want you here, you'll probably mess something else up."

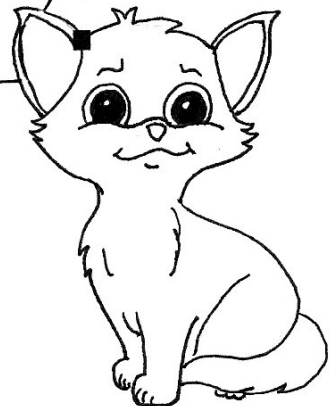
Anderson steps into the living room.

"Jack, that is no way to treat your sister. Why, just this morning in my tool shed you had an accident too. I didn't tell you to leave, did I? And now Violet accidentally knocked your car over, but you still have the rest of the village and it won't take you long to fix the car. If you want mercy for yourself, you need to show Violet some mercy."

Karissa Carver



BLESSED  
ARE THE  
MERCIFUL:  
FOR THEY  
SHALL  
OBTAIN  
MERCY





## Pure in Heart

Q68V2W8  
May 20, 2018

### Lesson Text: Matthew 5:8

Have you ever bit into a piece of fruit that looked good on the outside but inside it was sour? Jesus gave a blessing during His sermon that said, "Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God."

People who are pure in heart are just as good inside as they are on the outside. It is easy to pretend to be good even when you have bad thoughts in your heart. But Jesus doesn't want you to pretend to be someone you are not. He wants your heart pure and clean.

The Pharisees were religious leaders in Jesus' day. They looked like they did everything right, but their hearts were often full of jealousy and pride. They thought they were better than everyone around them. Jesus spoke against these people many times. He did not want any Christians to be like the Pharisees.

There are things you do that help you serve Jesus. For example, you pray and sing and come to church. These are all good, but if your heart is like a sour piece of fruit none of it matters! Jesus wants you to clean your heart and get rid of the bad spots.

Do you find yourself feeling jealousy toward your friend

who has toys you wish you owned? Maybe you get angry when something doesn't go your way. Do you think you are better than the other children who don't go to your church?

These feelings are examples of an unclean heart. Jesus said that the people who have a clean heart are the ones who will see God. Ask Jesus for this clean, pure heart.

King David wrote a psalm that says, "Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me." This verse is found at Psalm 51:10 and is a very good verse to memorize.

Man looketh on the outward appearance, but the Lord looketh on the heart. 1 Samuel 16:7

- Does Jesus care how your heart looks even if nobody else can see it?
- Why are the Pharisees bad?
- Who will see God: a person who looks important but has a bad heart, or a person who most people don't like but who has a pure and clean heart?
- Are there any bad spots on your heart? Jesus is happy to give you a clean heart if you ask Him.

## One Bad Apple

The doorbell rings. Anderson opens the door and greets Mr. and Mrs. Davis and young Abby. He invites them in, and the families introduce themselves. Anderson and Mr. Davis had met earlier that week at an auction.

Kathryn puts the final touches on the roast and lets her company know it's time to eat.

Jack and Violet look shyly across the table at Abby. Anderson and Kathryn beam at her perfect manners. Then she politely asks if she may be excused.

"One moment, dear," Mr. Davis says. "Before you young children head outside to play I'd like Abby to recite her Scriptures for the Mackey family."

Anderson and Kathryn's smiles grow. Abby gets out of her chair and stands at the front of the dining room. She smooths her dress, clears her throat and dutifully recites the 23rd Psalm and 1 Corinthians 13. Then, she ends with a song.

Jack and Violet can't stop staring at Abby. "Let's go outside. It will be such fun!" She proclaims after receiving much praise from the adults.

Soon, Jack and Violet realize Abby is not as good as they thought. Once she's away from the adult's earshot, she compares her parent's car to their truck, her dress to Violet's dress and her house to their house. Everything she owns is much better, she says.

Then she spots Arthur. "Oh, I must ride him."

She climbs on top of the fence and hops onto Arthur's back. Surprised, he playfully bucks his head and kicks his back legs. She topples over the young bull's head into a pile of hay.

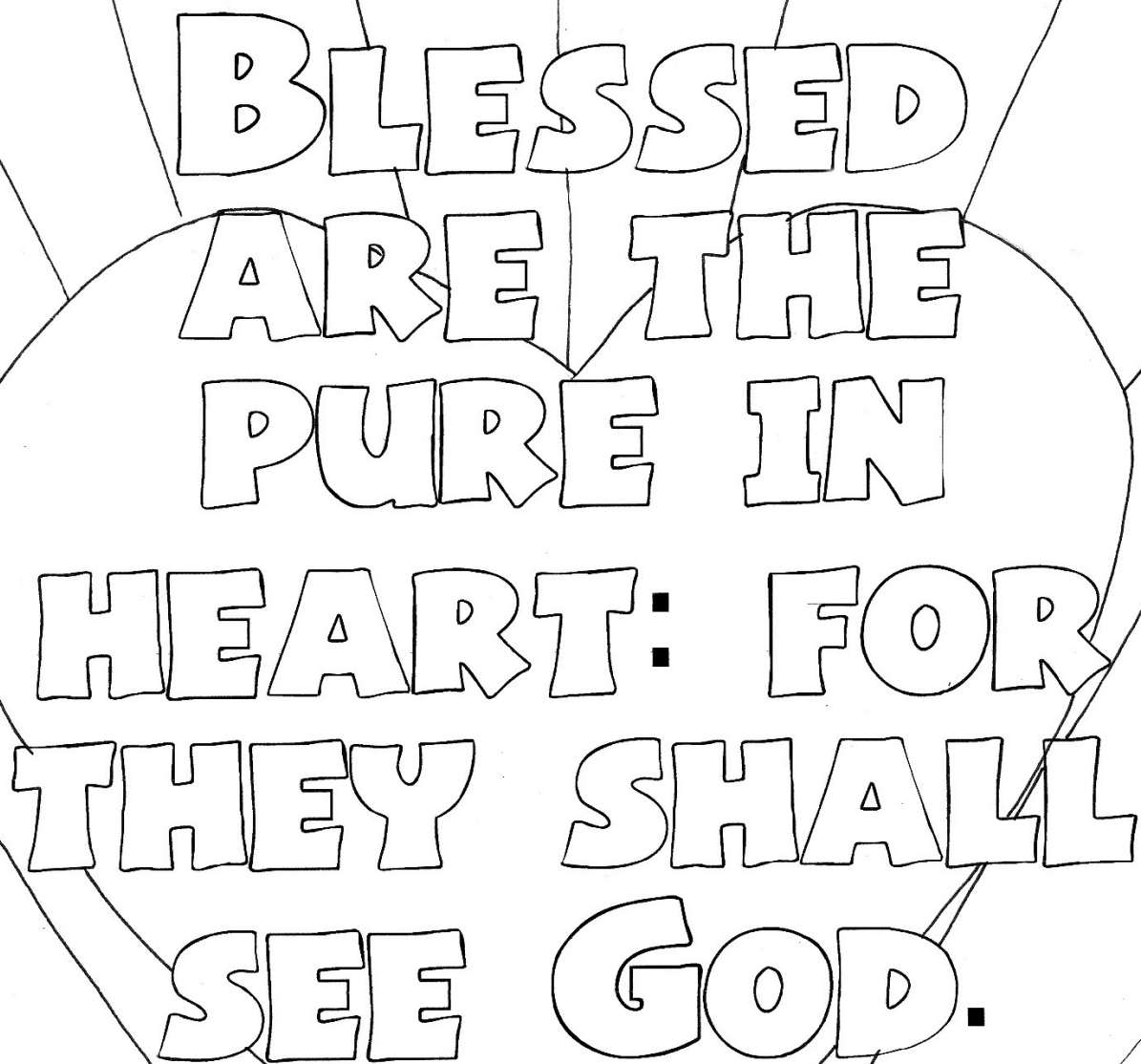
Jack and Violet try not to giggle. Abby gets up, picking hay from her dress. Her face turns redder and redder until she stomps her white shoe on the ground, closes her eyes and screams.

Now Jack and Violet try not to shudder. They stare with wide eyes at the girl before them. They thought she was perfect! They are shocked that it is just an act when she is in front of the grown-ups.

After the Davis family leaves, Jack and Violet tell their parents what happened.

"Seems to me that Abby is like a shiny penny on the outside but one bad apple on the inside," Anderson slowly says.

Karissa Carver

A large heart shape is centered on the page. The background consists of several lines radiating from the top and bottom, creating a sunburst or starburst effect. The heart is outlined in a simple black line.

**BLESSED  
ARE THE  
PURE IN  
HEART: FOR  
THEY SHALL  
SEE GOD.**



## Blessed are the Peacemakers

Q68V2W9

May 27, 2018

**Lesson Text:** Proverbs 11:12-13, 15:1, Isaiah 32:18, Matthew 5:9, John 14:27, 16:33

Jesus spoke powerful truths with few words. The next blessing in this Sermon on the Mount study says, "Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God."

A peacemaker is a person who brings peace, especially when people are upset.

You can be a peacemaker in several ways. The Bible is full of verses about peace and being a peacemaker.

A verse in Proverbs says that a wise person knows when to be quiet. Some people want to share all the secrets their friends tell them, but this hurts feelings and causes anger. A peacemaker knows that a secret means keeping quiet.

Another verse in Proverbs says that "a soft answer turns away wrath, but grievous words stir up anger." You can be a peacemaker by saying kind words to your siblings or friends when they are upset at you. It's easy to get upset and say mean words back, but Jesus said the children of God are peacemakers, not pot-stirrers!

For example, if someone on the playground pushes you away so they can go down the slide first, remember that Jesus does not want you to yell or push them back.

If you hear your friends or siblings arguing, don't stir the pot by joining the argument. Instead, say some kind words to each person. Everyone likes kindness!

Jesus wants His children to live peaceful lives. He knows that things will happen in your life that aren't peaceful, but when you are a peacemaker He is able to give you peace in your own soul. Jesus said in John 14:27, "My peace I give unto you... Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid."

If you want to be a child of God, you must be a peacemaker. Your family and friends will be happier, and Jesus will fill you with peace and bravery.

Live peaceably with all men. Romans 12:18

- What is a peacemaker?
- Why is it important to keep secrets quiet?
- Think of some ways you can be a peacemaker with your family and friends.
- Jesus will fill you with \_\_\_\_\_ when you are a peacemaker to others.

### Jack the Peacemaker

Jack is quickly forming friendships with the children in his class. Even though he came to Timber Springs Elementary at the end of the school year, he is bright and has no trouble catching up with the class.

He stands beside his new friends Mateo Rodriguez and Douglas Johnson. Mr. Miller, their teacher, walks the class outside toward the cafeteria.

Today is a special lunch day for Jack. The school sends out a monthly menu each month, and Kathryn lets Jack choose a school hot lunch a few times a week. Today the lunch is mashed potatoes with chicken and gravy and a roll. It's one of Jack's favorite school lunches.

He grabs the meal and a cold milk. He and his friends find an empty spot at the long tables and sit down.

Jack closes his eyes and thanks Jesus for his food. Then he digs in like any hungry little boy would with such filling food!

After every last morsel is scraped up, the boys head to the playground. They run up and down the playset and eventually join

a group of boys kicking a soccer ball back and forth.

All of a sudden, Jack hears arguing behind him. He turns around, and sees Douglas and a boy from another class, Scott, arguing.

"Jack, tell Scott it's my turn to kick the ball!" Douglas says. The boy's faces are red and they are staring each other in the eyes.

"No, I should kick the ball because I can kick a lot harder than you!" Scott insists.

By this time many of the boys are gathered around the argument. Some chant, "fight, fight!"

Jack knows he needs to say something to stop the argument before it escalates into a fight.

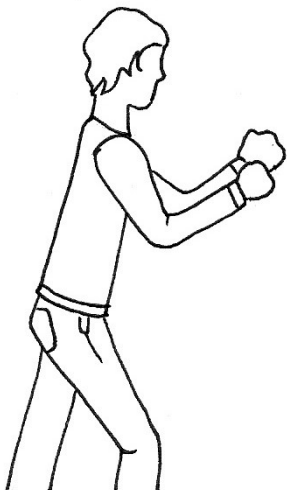
"Now wait a minute," he says. "Scott, it is true that you can probably kick the hardest out of all us boys. But Douglas can trap a fast soccer ball with his feet better than all of us. Maybe he could use the practice kicking and you could practice trapping!"

The boys like this idea. They head back out across the field about the time that a teacher comes up and asks if everything is ok.

"Yeah," Scott mumbles. "Ole Jack is a good peacemaker."

Karissa Carver

**BLESSED  
ARE THE  
PEACEMAKERS:  
FOR THEY  
SHALL BE  
CALLED THE  
CHILDREN OF  
GOD.**



TeachSundaySchool.com





## Blessed are the Persecuted

Q68V2W10

June 3, 2018

**Lesson Text:** Matthew 5:10-12, 44, John 15:17,  
2 Corinthians 4:9

"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."

These words Jesus spoke during His Sermon on the Mount have comforted many Christians throughout the ages. He says you are blessed when people are mean to you, tease you or ignore you because you are a Christian. Why?

When you shine your Christian light in the world, people who are not saved see that light and don't like it because they know they are not living right. Sometimes they will be mean to you because they feel guilty. But Jesus wants you to know that when this happens, it is a sign that you are a child of God, and you should be happy!

It hurts to be ignored or laughed at, but if it happens to you, say a prayer to Jesus. Thank Him that you are His child and ask Him to comfort your hurting heart. He will stay right beside you and hold your hand.

Jesus also wants you to pray for your persecutors. During the same sermon, He said, "Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you."

What does this mean? It means that even when someone doesn't treat you right, Jesus still wants you to show them kindness. Do you know that their hearts are hurting, too? They may never tell you what's going on, but if they don't have Jesus they are very sad and alone.

That is why Jesus says in John 15:17, "These things I command you, that ye love one another."

Persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed. 2 Corinthians 4:9

- What does persecution mean?
- Why will people persecute you if you are a Christian?
- Does Jesus want you to be mean to your persecutors, or does He want you to be kind?
- Have you been persecuted? Do you think that person needs a good friend?

## The Lonely Heart

Every first weekend of June, Timber Springs hosts "Timber Day." Locals set up booths for crafts and homemade goods. The men have logging competitions sawing, chopping and climbing trees.

The Mackey family arrives early Saturday morning. They enjoy visiting each booth and speaking with their friends.

Jack eventually heads off to the whittling booth. Violet notices Amy Carter standing by the petting zoo, watching the little Shetland pony.

"Hi, Amy," she says.

"Go away," Amy responds crossly. "I didn't ask you to talk to me. I don't want to be around you."

Violet's cheeks turn red. She runs back to her parents and sobs, "I don't like that mean Amy Carter at all!"

Anderson and Kathryn look at each other over Violet's head.

"Sweetie," Kathryn says soothingly. "Remember how sad you felt for her at her party? Do you think that she's feeling sad right now, too? Her parents dropped her off an hour ago

and then left. She should not have been mean. That was wrong. But would you think about trying again? She needs a friend, even if she isn't acting like one."

Violet thought about this for a long time. Her tender little heart began softening for Amy. "I want to be her friend, but her words hurt! What am I supposed to do, Mommy?"

"Go and try again. Ask her if she'd like to go into the petting zoo and pet that little pony. She's been staring at her for a long time now."

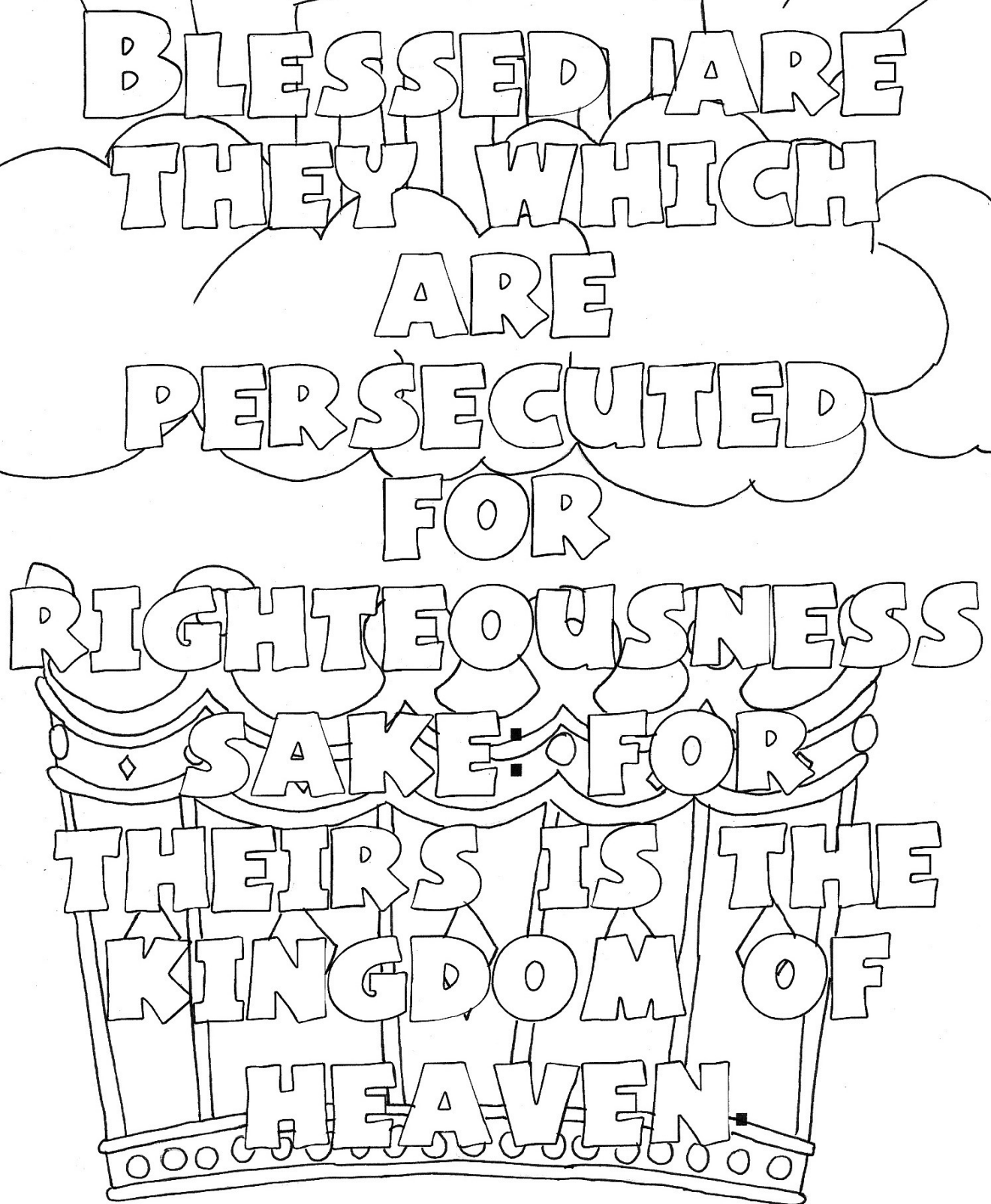
Violet slowly walks back to Amy. "Hi. I know you said you don't want to be with me, but I'm going to go through the gate and pet the pony. Would you like to go with me?"

Amy stares at Violet. Her eyes look like she's been crying, too.

"Yes," she says quietly. "I'm sorry I was mean. I was jealous of you. You get to spend all day with your family. I wish I could with mine."

Violet takes Amy's hand and leads her to the Shetland. The girls laugh and coo at the sweet little pony. Amy has not enjoyed herself this much in a long time.

Karissa Carver



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## Salt of the Earth

Q68V2W11

June 10, 2018

**Lesson Text:** Job 6:6, Matthew 5:13, Mark 9:50

Jesus didn't stop after listing the twelve blessings of a Christian. He still had much truth to share with the people. He told them, "Ye are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost his savor, wherewith shall it be salted? It is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men."

Have you ever had food that needed salt? Salt seasons and preserves food. Jesus wants you to be like salt for this world. As a Christian, you help preserve the spirit of Jesus in a world where so many people either don't know about Him or are ignoring Him.

What does Jesus mean when He says that if the salt has lost its savor, it should be thrown away? Well, some people call themselves Christians but they don't have Jesus living in their heart. They may know verses and God's truth, but if they are not living the way Jesus wants them to live, He says that their flavor is lost. Salt cannot season and preserve when it doesn't act or taste like salt anymore!

That is why it is so important for you to keep Jesus close in your heart. It doesn't matter to Him if you know the truth but you don't live the truth. He wants you living the truth every day so that He can shine His light through you!

There are some important things you can do to live the truth every day. Mark 9:50 says, "have salt in yourselves, and have peace one with another."

Keeping the peace is very important to Jesus. It should be more important to Christians to be peaceful to each other and live to serve Jesus and spread His light than to argue all the time over personal matters and opinions.

If you don't have a pleasant seasoning flavor to your life, how will people be attracted to the Gospel?

Let your speech be always with grace,  
seasoned with salt. Colossians 4:6

- How does food taste when it doesn't have any salt?
- Why does Jesus want you to be the salt of the earth?
- If you call yourself a Christian but you aren't living for Jesus every day, do you think people around you are going to want to be like you?
- Is it more important to be peaceful or to argue over your opinions?

### "More Salt, Please"

Jack and Violet both wake up on the wrong side of bed. Jack walks to the breakfast table and folds his arms, staring crossly at the tablecloth. Violet plunks down in her chair and sighs loudly.

"Well, well. Have my children got up on the wrong side of the bed this morning?" Kathryn asks with raised eyebrows.

She's met with silence. An idea forms in her mind. "Children, eat your breakfast and get dressed. We are going into town this Saturday morning. I'm going to find your dad and then I'll be back."

The siblings start arguing as soon as Kathryn walks out the door.

Meanwhile, Kathryn finds Anderson and tells him about their grumpy children. She talks to him about her idea, and he agrees.

Kathryn hums to herself as she drives their old pickup down the mountain road into town. The children glare out the window.

Kathryn finds Mrs. Knelson at the store and quietly tells her what she wants to do.

Mrs. Knelson smiles and rings up a pack of chicken breasts and dried beans.

Once home, Kathryn tells them they can play quietly in their rooms.

Finally, it's lunch. Jack and Violet take a bite of their beans and chicken and glance at each other with wide eyes. They have never tasted food so bland!

But Anderson and Kathryn speak to each other pleasantly during the meal, as though nothing is wrong.

Finally, Jack says, "Mom? Can I have more salt, please? This chicken doesn't taste like it usually does."

"That's because it has no salt, Jack. I didn't salt the chicken or the beans. Do you remember the message from last Sunday?"

Both Jack and Violet recall the sermon about Christians seasoning the Earth with the way they live.

"You see, Jesus wants us to be like salt, always. We are going to have bad days, but instead of refusing to feel better or pray for help, you two determined to make the day as miserable as possible. I will get the salt now, but I hope you two will remember your actions today tasted just like this bland chicken."

Karissa Carver



*The Beautiful Way* can be downloaded at [sundayschoolliterature.com](http://sundayschoolliterature.com) and [churchofgodeveninglight.com/beautiful-way](http://churchofgodeveninglight.com/beautiful-way).

Volume 68, Quarter 2, Week 11. Editor: Lindsey Gellenbeck



## The Light of the World

Q68V2W12

June 17, 2018

**Lesson Text:** Matthew 5:14-16, John 15:8, Philippians 2:15  
Jesus calls you to be the salt of the earth, but He also calls you to be the light of the world. Right after He told the believers that they were the salt of the earth, He said, "Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid. Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house."

Have you ever been in a vehicle at night and you see all the lights shining from a city? It's easy to see light in darkness. You shine like a bright city when you are a Christian.

Have you ever been in a dark house and someone lights a candle? They don't hide the candle under a basket or under their bed, do they? No! They put the candle on a high place so that it shines light around the entire room. You shine like a bright candle, and Jesus does not want you to hide your light.

Jesus says that when you live for Him, you produce spiritual fruit. Spiritual fruit cannot be held like an apple or banana, but the fruit you produce comes out as a light to the world.

As a Christian, you are called to be polite, kind, and a peacemaker. These are traits that shine a light.

When someone says something mean to you and you don't say anything mean back, they notice.

When you are in town with your family and you don't throw a fit when you want something, people notice.

When you pray for your food in front of your friends or strangers, they notice.

Paul says that Christians are living in the middle of a wicked world and shining their lights in the darkness. Jesus wants you to always shine for Him, because your light leads people to Jesus.

Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven. Matthew 5:16

- Do you know the song "This Little Light of Mine" was written from your memory verse and the two verses before it? Sing the song and then read Matthew 5:14-16 again.
- How do city lights look at night? What does a candle do in a dark room?
- What is spiritual fruit?
- Why is it important to shine your light for Jesus?

### Shining a Light During the Day

The Mackey household buzzes in excitement. Kathryn is in the attic finding a box labeled "snow gear." Anderson ties down the tent and sled in the bed of his truck. Jack and Violet dance around the house.

Today the family is driving up to Timberline Lodge on Mt. Hood. Jack has never been to a ski lodge before, and Violet can't wait to share the day with him. That night, they are camping at Trillium Lake!

The children exclaim in wonder at the steep drop-off just feet away from the road as Anderson makes the slow climb up the winding mountain road. He reaches Timberline Lodge and finds a parking spot.

The family walks into the lodge, and Jack catches his breath. The lodge is made of thick wood logs, and the ceilings are higher than he could have imagined. A roaring fire blazes away and skiers stomp the snow off their skis as they exit in and out.

Just outside the lodge, the family finds a good little hill to play in the sled. A few other families join them. The children love

getting in the sled with Anderson and flying down the snowy hill.

After a long morning at the Lodge and hiking the trails around the ski slopes, the family drives a short distance to Trillium Lake. There, they choose their campsite and set up the tent. Then they eat their lunch of thick sandwiches, fresh strawberries and potato chips at the picnic table. The beautiful mountain rises over the lake, and the warm sunshine heats up the pine needles and flowers. The clean air wafts this natural perfume around the lake.

The children splash in the water after lunch and Anderson and Kathryn gaze at the beauty around them as they hold hands and sit together in two folding chairs.

Jack and Violet don't know it, but all day people watch them. Many parents admire the children's good manners. They notice how the children don't cry and scream when it is time to stop sledding. They notice how much the family enjoys being together. Many people wish they had a family like the Mackey family and wonder what makes them so different.

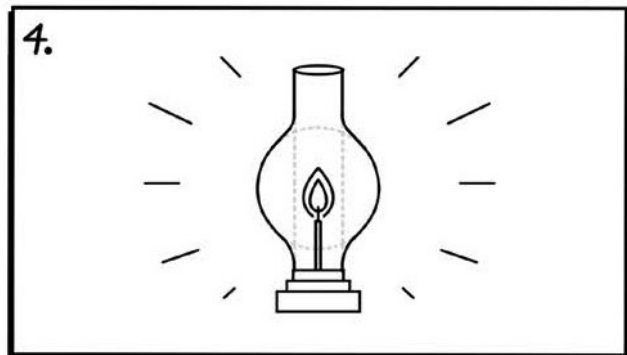
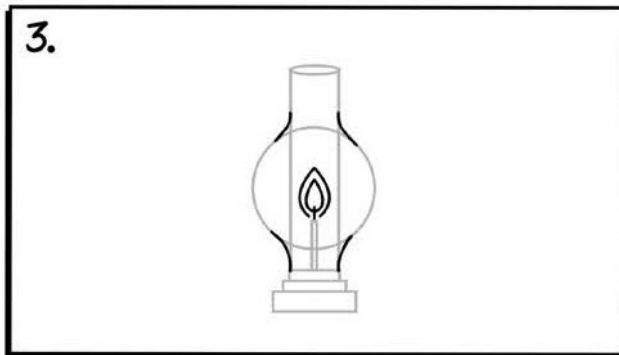
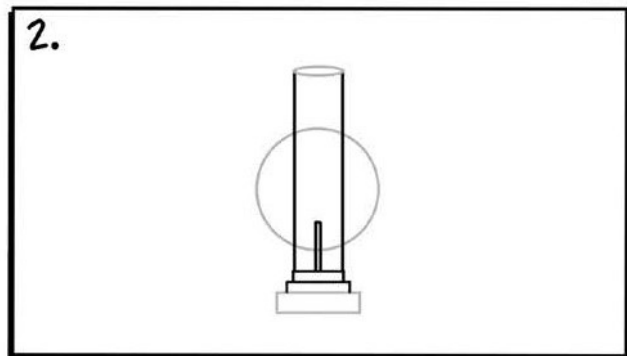
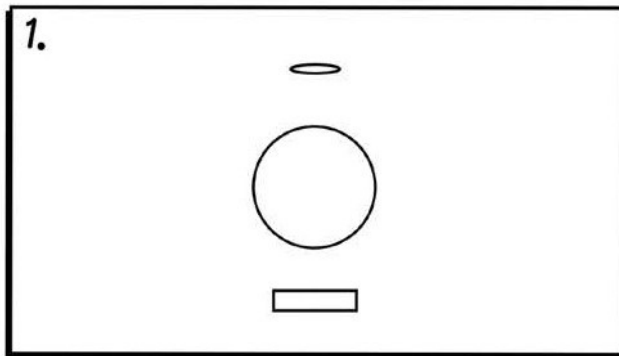
Karissa Carver



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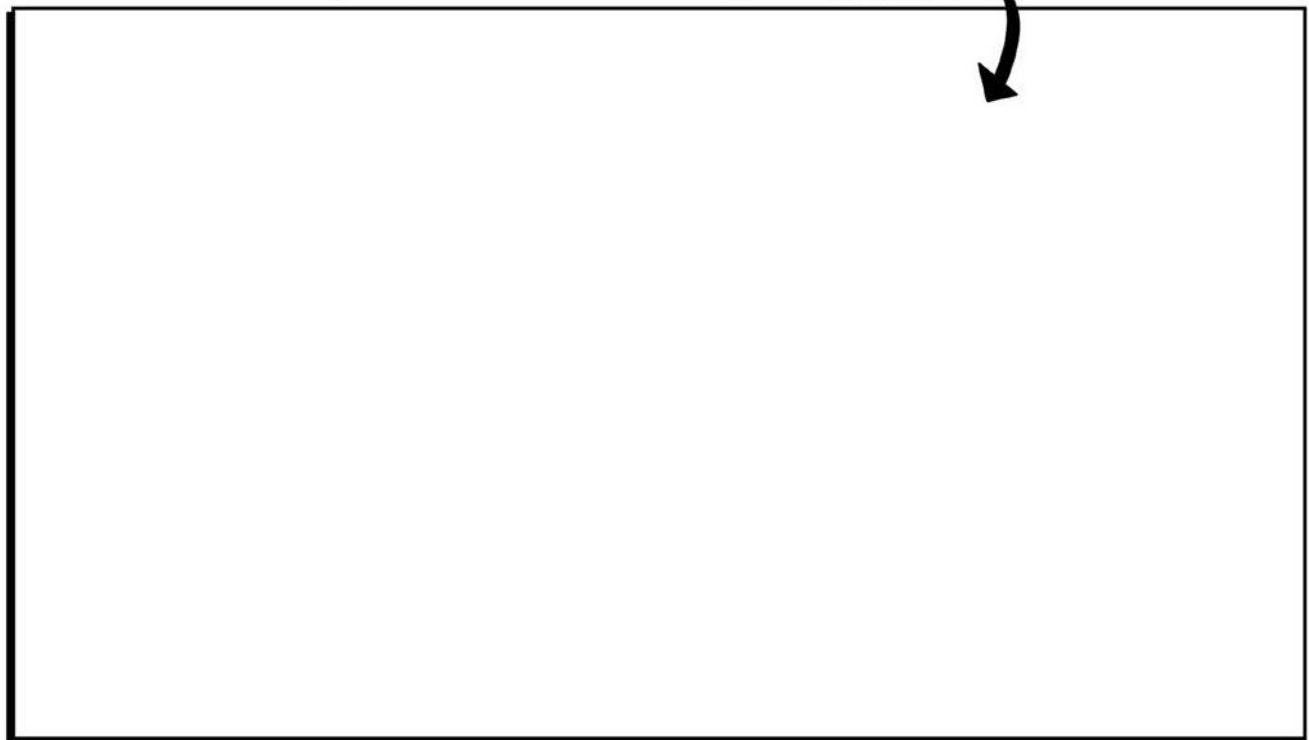
## LANTERN

Use a pencil,  
Erase "LINE" after step 4



Jesus said "You are the light of the world." - Matthew 5:14

### Now it's Your turn!





## Anger

Q68V2W13

June 24, 2018

**Lesson Text:** Jonah 3:10, 4, Matthew 5:21-24, Ephesians 4:26, 32

What does anger mean to you? Anger is a strong emotion that makes you very irritated or mean. Jesus has some strong words to say about anger. In fact, there are many verses throughout the Bible about anger.

Jonah had a problem with anger. After he spent three days in the belly of a big fish, he finally made his way to Nineveh. He gave the people the message from God that God planned to destroy the city because of their sin. But the people repented and asked God for mercy. God forgave them, but Jonah became very angry that God didn't kill them.

He went outside the city and pouted. God asked him, "How is it helping you to be angry?"

Jonah wasn't helping himself by being angry. God cared about the people in Nineveh, just as He cares about every person on Earth. He wants His children to love, not hate.

During the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus says, "Whoever is angry with another person without a reason is in danger of the judgement."

Jesus also says that if you go to pray and you remember that you had an argument with someone, go and ask forgiveness with that person and then come back to worship God. That's how serious it is to be free from anger!

Paul writes in his letter to the Ephesians, "Be ye angry, and sin not: let not the sun go down on your wrath."

There is a place for righteous anger, but unrighteous anger is sin. Righteous anger is hating the devil, but unrighteous anger is hating people and yelling at them, hurting them, wishing bad things would happen to them or being mean to them because you are upset.

If you get upset with someone, it is very important to ask forgiveness before the day is through. Do not go to sleep with anger in your heart. Anger toward a person is sin.

Instead, "be kind one to another, tender-hearted, forgiving one another, even as God has forgiven you (Ephesians 4:32)."

Be not hasty in thy spirit to be angry: for  
anger resteth in the bosom of fools.

Ecclesiastes 7:9

- How does it feel to be angry? How does it feel when someone else is angry at you?
- Why was Jonah angry? Was God pleased with his behavior?
- Is anger sin? Can you be a Christian and live with sin in your life?
- How does Jesus want you to treat other people?

## The Chatter of Fools

Jack works diligently at his desk. He and his class are learning about 3-D shapes and each child is trying to build a cube with popsicle sticks.

Some children have an easier time than others. Some are happy, others are frustrated.

Tommy Jenkins sits near Jack. He's already frustrated at his attempt, and he's muttering to himself.

Ana Aldana also sits near the two boys. She walks back to her desk with some more glue. Tommy's foot is resting in the walkway, and Ana doesn't see it. She trips over his foot and the movement jars Tommy's hand. The popsicle sticks he is balancing together topple over.

Tommy yells at Ana. "You're so stupid! Why did you do that? I can't believe it! You just ruined my cube. I had almost figured it out, too. I hate you!"

Ana stares in shock at Tommy. "I'm sorry, Tommy. I didn't see your foot. I tripped."

Mr. Miller says sharply, "That's enough, Tommy. I don't want to hear another outburst from you."

Tommy is quiet, but talks to himself loud enough for Jack and Ana to hear. He says several more mean things about Ana.

Jack smiles sadly at Ana. Her eyes are sad, but she doesn't say anything mean back to Tommy.

"How is it helping you to stay angry at Ana?" Jack asks Tommy several minutes later. Tommy scowls at them.

"It just does. I don't want to forgive her."

"But I learned in my Sunday School class that it's not good to be angry at anyone," Jack continues earnestly. "It doesn't make you feel any better, does it?"

Tommy doesn't say another word but sulks and scowls the rest of the day.

That night, Jack tells his parents. Anderson tells him about a verse in Proverbs that says a fool says everything on his mind, but a wise person keeps their thoughts in their hearts.

"Tommy let his anger control him today. Ana could have been angry back, but I have a feeling she was praying to Jesus to not have anger in her heart toward Tommy. That is a very important lesson for us all to remember."

Karissa Carver

