



**Bible Story:** Heavenly Rewards (Matthew 5:10-12)

**Today's Takeaway:** I should do the right thing even when it's hard.

**Series Verse:** "Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. (James 1:2-3 NIV)

**Weekly Verse:** "God blesses those who are persecuted for doing right, for the Kingdom of Heaven is theirs." (Matthew 5:10 NLT)

## Discussion Questions:

1. What does it mean to be blessed?  
*(Jesus loves you always no matter what, and He wants to be your friend forever.)*
2. Who did Jesus say would be blessed in Matthew 5:10? *(Those who are persecuted for doing right.)*
3. What will God give to those who are persecuted for doing right? *(The Kingdom of God.)*
4. When should we do what is right? *(Always)*
5. Why should we be glad about being persecuted –people treating us badly or facing hard things - for following Jesus? *(Because a great reward awaits us in Heaven.)*

## Activity Ideas:

### 1. Handcuffs

#### What You Need:

- Paper and tape

### What You Do:

- Watch this video <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GqR4p2vsihE> to make the handcuffs with your child.
- Talk about how many people in the Bible were handcuffed or put in prison for telling others about Jesus.
- Talk about how people today around the world are still handcuffed or put in prison for telling others about Jesus.
- Pray for those believers.
- Talk about what persecution you and your kids may face for living for Jesus and doing the right thing.
- Pray for strength to do the right thing even when it is hard.

## **2. Let's Do It Right**

### What You Need:

- A Set of Series Verse Cards (found on the last page of the document), a set of 1-5 cards, and 4-5 paper balls

### What You Do:

- Say the verse together out loud after each round.
- When you finish each round, talk about what Jesus calls us to do that might be hard or that others might not like.
- Also, talk about how you could respond to different types of persecution.

### **Round 1:**

- Set out the 1-5 cards in order.
- Shuffle the verse cards and spread them face down around the room/ area (can be close together or far apart).
- When you say go, have your kids pick up the cards and put the verse in order (they just need to put the verse cards on top of the 1-5 cards) as fast as they can.
- While they work shout things at them and get close to their faces (maybe shout that they can't do it or that they are doing it wrong or that they are crazy for how they are doing it.)

### **Round 2:**

- Set the game up just like you did for Round 1, and say, "go".
- This time while they work, throw paper balls at them continuously.

### **Round 3:**

- Set the game up again, and say, "go."
- This time while they work, push them around a little or block them from getting the cards or tickle them.

## **Family Prayer:**

Take a few minutes to pray as a family to wrap up your time together.

## Series Verse Cards

(Print and cut them out or write them by hand on cards or paper and cut/ tear them apart).

Consider it pure joy,  
my brothers and sisters,

1

whenever you face  
trials of many kinds

2

because you know  
that the testing of

3

your faith produces  
perseverance

4

James 1:2-3

5

1

2

3

4

5