



May 3rd Elementary Family Lesson



Bible Story: Jesus Shows Mercy (Matthew 20:29-34)

Today's Takeaway: I should be merciful to others even when they don't deserve it.

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 merciful, for they will be shown mercy.” (Matthew 5:7 NLT)

Discussion Questions:

1. What does it mean to be blessed?
(If you have a personal relationship with Jesus, you are forgiven of your sins and God's divine favor and protection cover you. You have hope no matter what happens because God will always be with you, and one day you will live with Him forever where no more bad or sad things will impact you.)
2. What does it mean to be merciful? How has God shown mercy to you?
3. Can you think of a time that someone showed you mercy? How did you feel?
4. Can you think of a time that you showed someone mercy (helped them / forgave them) even though they didn't deserve it? How did you feel?
5. Have kids look up these verses and discuss them as a group.

1 Peter 1:3, Romans 9:15-16, Psalm 103:17

Activity Ideas:

1. Mercy Scene

What You Need:

- Paper and a drawing utensils (1 of each for each person participating)

What You Do:

- Have each person draw a scene or picture that represents mercy to them. (If they are having trouble getting the creative juices flowing, maybe suggest drawing a scene from today's Bible story where Jesus heals the two blind men)
- Talk about what each person drew and how it represents mercy to them.
- Talk more about God's mercy towards us, and how He wants us to treat others with that same mercy...Being merciful means to show forgiveness and kindness to those in need. Mercy is all about not getting what you deserve. No one deserves to be forgiven; we "deserve" to live our lives separated from God because of our sins, but God chose to be merciful to us. God is only asking us to do for others what He has already done for all of us. That's why it is fitting for us to look to Jesus as an example of showing mercy to others who didn't deserve it.'

2. MERCY Hoops

What You Need:

- 5 bins each labeled with one letter of MERCY and a paper ball for each participant.
- Set the bins out where the M is closest to the participants and each bin keeps getting farther away with Y being the farthest

What You Do:

- Decide on a line that all participants will stand behind to shoot their paper balls into the bins (when it is their turn).
- Have participants stand together behind that line.
- Ask participants trivia questions...you can ask each question to the group as a whole and have them compete to be the first to shout the correct answer OR you can ask one kid a question at a time that is a question just for them.
- Either way you play, when someone answers correctly, they earn the right to try to shoot a paper ball into the closest bin (the M bin). If they get it in, they are done with that bin and will move on to the E bin next time they get a question correct, etc. If they do not get it in, they will try for the M bin the next time they get a question correct.
- The goal is to be the first person to score your paper ball in each bin M then E then R then C then Y.
- As you play, talk more about God's mercy towards us, and how He wants us to treat others with that same mercy...Being merciful means to show forgiveness and kindness to those in need. Mercy is all about not getting what you deserve. No one deserves to be forgiven; we "deserve" to live our lives separated from God because of our sins, but God chose to be merciful to us. God is only asking us to do for others what He has already done for all of us. That's why it is fitting for us to look to Jesus as an example of showing mercy to others who didn't deserve it.

Family Prayer:

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

*****Trivia Questions & Answers for Activity 2 "Mercy Hoops" are on the next page.*****

WEST RIDGE KIDS TRIVIA QUESTIONS & ANSWERS FOR “MERCY HOOPS”

If your kids are having trouble coming up with an answer, give them the multiple choice options to help them. They are italicized after each question and answer.

1. What book of the Bible does today's story and the beatitudes we have been learning come from? (Matthew) --*Matthew, Luke, Malachi*
2. What city were Jesus and his disciples leaving from in today's story? (Jericho) - *Bethlehem, Jerusalem, Jericho*
3. Fill in the blank: The blind men that called to Jesus said, “Jesus, son of David, have _____ on us. (mercy) - *pity, mercy, miracles*
4. How many blind men did Jesus give sight to in today's story? (2) -*3, 10, 2*
5. True or False: The blind men in today's story did something to deserve Jesus healing them? (False, Jesus showed them mercy by giving them something that they didn't deserve)
6. In today's beatitude, who does Jesus say will be blessed? (the merciful) -*the merciful, the mindful, the magnificent*
7. How does Jesus say the merciful will be blessed? (they will receive mercy) -*receive mercy, receive money, receive power*
8. In last week's Bible story about choosing to do what is right even when it is hard, who go thrown into a den of lions? (Daniel) -*David, Jesus, Daniel*
9. What did Daniel do that caused him to be thrown into the lions' den? (Prayed to the one true God) - *Danced in the street, went to church, prayed to the one true God*
10. How did God protect Daniel from the lions? (He sent an angel) -*He killed the lions, He sent an angel, He held Daniel in the air where the lions couldn't reach him*
11. Last week's beatitude was Matthew 5:6, and in it Jesus said that those that hunger and thirst for righteousness will be blessed in what way? (they will be satisfied/ filled) -*they will be satisfied, they will earn their way to heaven, they will never be sick*
12. Matthew 5:5's beatitude says that God blesses those that think of others more than themselves. What adjective did Jesus use to describe those people? (humble) -*humble, strong, crazy*
13. Name one way that Jesus showed humility. (came to earth as a baby, served others, healed others, washed his disciples' feet, died on the cross, etc.)
14. In Matthew 5:4, how does Jesus say that He will bless those that are sad or mourn? (He will comfort them) -*He will give them a puppy, He will comfort them, He will leave them alone*
15. When we choose to follow Jesus, He sends his spirit to live inside of us. What is His Spirit called? (the Holy Spirit) -*the Strong One, Son of Man, the Holy Spirit*
16. Going back to the very first beatitude that we studied in March, Jesus said those who know they need him will be blessed by inheriting the kingdom of _____. (heaven) -*butterflies, heaven, Christmas*

If you run out of questions and haven't finished the game, you can make up trivia questions about anything...other Bible characters, books of the Bible, maybe throw in some sports or movies or whatever will interest your kids ☺.

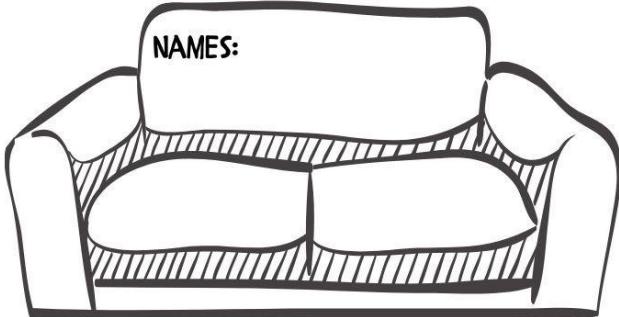
**** If you have a printer, the next page is for your kids to take notes while watching the online service...****

• MONTH _____
• DAY _____
• YEAR _____

Sermon Notes From Home

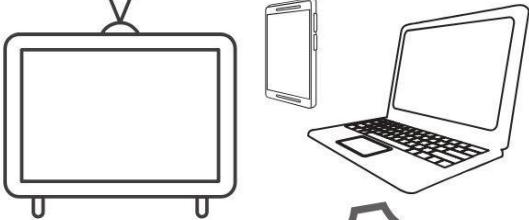


WHO DID YOU SIT WITH ON THE COUCH?



IF YOU DIDN'T SIT ON THE COUCH, DRAW A PICTURE OF HOW YOU VIEWED TODAY'S SERMON OR DRAW A PICTURE OF WHO YOU WATCHED THE SERMON WITH:

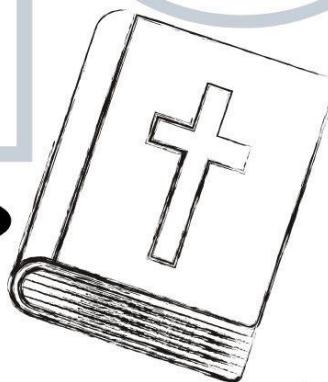
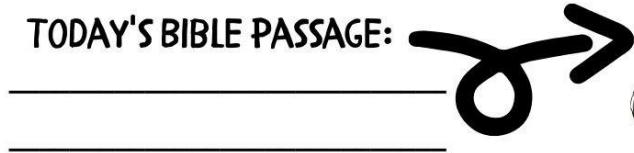
HOW DID YOU WATCH THE SERMON FROM HOME?



ARE YOU IN YOUR JAMMIES OR CLOTHES?? DRAW A PICTURE:



TODAY'S BIBLE PASSAGE:



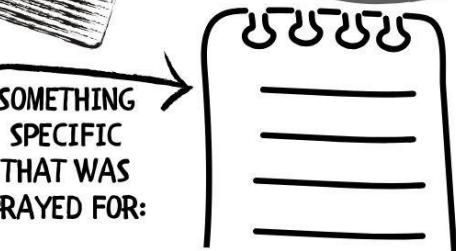
A WORSHIP SONG THAT WAS SUNG:



3 BIG THINKS FROM TODAY'S SERMON YOU CAN ASK GOD TO USE TO GROW YOU CLOSER TO HIM:



SOMETHING SPECIFIC THAT WAS PRAYED FOR:



SOMETHING SPECIFIC YOU ARE PRAYING FOR:

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE PART ABOUT CHURCH AT HOME?