

Quarter #: 1	Class Age: 4-6 year olds	Lesson Title: Woman at the well
Lesson #: 7	Prepared By: A. Alexander	Lesson Scripture: John 4

Visuals / Resources: Use map to point out places

Welcome Activity: Coloring sheet

Prayer: Discuss how we talk to God, how He talks to us. Help us to treasure God's word + tell others.
Sing "books of the Bible, I have a wonderful treasure."
Take prayer requests

Review:
Go over review questions from previous lessons.

Lesson Facts: (Main points to cover...)

Principle: (Concept / Key truth to be gained...) We should be like this woman - so excited when she found Jesus + so excited to tell others about Him too!

Application: (How student can apply...) When we learn about Jesus, we should be excited and wanting to tell others all about Him! Who can you tell about Jesus?

Activities: Coloring sheet
"God's word is a treasure..." heart activity

Songs: Trust and Obey
God will take care of you

Other:
On Wednesday, kids can draw/write notes to sick.

Lesson: Jesus + disciples are heading to Galilee.

Who are the disciples? special friends/helpers

On the way, they stopped in Samaria. Now, the Jews and Samaritans don't get along. (Jesus is a Jew)

In Samaria there was a well - a place to get water. It was around noon/lunchtime, so it was hot. Jesus was at the well alone while the disciples went + got food.

A Samaritan woman came up to get water and Jesus said to her, "Give Me a drink." Remember, Jews and Samaritans don't get along, so she wanted to know why Jesus would ask her for water. He said that if she really knew who she was talking to, then she would know that Jesus could give her living water.

Who is Jesus? son of God

Why is she at well? to get water

So what do you think LIVING WATER is?

When you drink, do you get thirsty again?

With Jesus, He's not talking about the actual water we drink. He's talking about eternal life and having a home in Heaven.

If we obey, read our Bible, + follow Jesus only, then we can live forever in Heaven. Jesus is telling her that if she seeks Him, she'll never thirst. Does that mean she won't ever have to drink water?? No, it means she can trust God to take care of her when she's scared, hurt, sad, even happy! God will take care of her + she won't need to worry about anything if she trusts + obeys God!

After hearing all this, she realizes that He is really important + must be a prophet!

READ John 4: 25-26

So she knew that Jesus was the Christ, the Son of God, and that she should listen to Him!
Should we listen to Him too? Yes!

This woman was so excited, that she left her waterpot, went into the city and told the people that she thinks she has met the Christ! She wants them to come see too! So they go to Jesus!

READ John 4:39

Lots of people listened to Jesus. He stayed there 2 days. Many people believed what He said because they heard it for themselves - that He is the Savior of the world!

Principle: We need to be like this woman - so excited when she found Jesus + so excited to tell others about Him too!

Application: When we learn about Jesus, we should be excited and wanting to tell others all about Him!
Who can you tell about Jesus?

Introduction to the Sermon on the Mount

Today we are going to learn about the Sermon on the Mount. This sermon is found in Matthew chapters 5-7.

The sermon begins when Jesus saw a crowd of people, he went up onto the side of a mountain, sat down, and began to teach.

The people had heard other teachers before but were astonished at what Jesus said to them. They could tell that Jesus spoke the truth as "one having authority". What Jesus said that day was so important that his sermon was recorded in our Bibles for us to read. Since Jesus was speaking from the side of a mountain we refer to what He said that day as "The Sermon on the Mount."

Jesus taught many wonderful lessons in the Sermon on the Mount. The lessons are practical and apply to everyday life. We will talk about these lessons further when we explore the Beatitudes and Shinning as Lights in a Dark World. Today, however, we are going to focus on Matthew 6:19-7:12 and living the Rich and Meaningful Life.

Beginning in Matthew 6:19-21, Jesus says "Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. 20 But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys, and where thieves do not break in or steal; 21 for where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

Sometimes we worry about getting new toys, saving money in our piggy banks, what we will wear or what we will eat, but Jesus said that if you follow God you are rich! You have treasures in heaven waiting for you. People that seek earthly treasures get disappointed because things wear out, rust, get lost or even stolen.

Jesus said if we worry about things on earth we will be sad. If we remember we have treasure in heaven we know that treasure will last forever.

Question: So which is more valuable, treasure on earth or treasure in heaven?

Next, let's look at the text found in Matthew 7:13-14. Jesus says "Enter through the narrow gate; for the gate is wide and the way is broad that leads to destruction, and there are many who enter through it. 14 For the gate is small and the way is narrow that leads to life, and there are few who find it.

In these verses Jesus talks about making wise decisions. He said there were two choices and the choices are like gates. One gate is very wide and easy to go through. Most people chose this gate. They choose to do what is easy instead of what is right. The other gate is narrow and harder to go through. Not as many people choose to go through it. The people that go through the narrow gate are willing to do what is right even if it comes with great difficulty.

So where do you think the gates lead? Jesus said the wide gate leads to destruction and the narrow gate leads to a life in heaven. Which gate will you choose?

Jesus said many other important things in the Sermon on the Mount. So many things that it might be difficult to remember them all!

As we wrap up our study today, I want to focus on one more verse from the sermon on the Mount call the Golden Rule. It's given this name because if we will follow this rule, then we will always know how to treat other people. Would you like to hear what the Golden Rule is?

"In everything, therefore, treat people the same way you want them to treat you, for this is the Law and the Prophets.." Matthew 7:12

Repeat after me "Treat others the same way you want them to treat you". That's right, the way you want people to treat you is the way you should always treat them.

If someone hurts us we feel like hurting them back. But that is not the Golden Rule. The Golden Rule is that we only treat people like we wish to be treated. Jesus knew that following the Golden Rule would be difficult sometimes but do you remember what he said about the gates? Choosing to follow the Golden Rule is like going through the narrow gate. It may be more difficult but it leads to the best life!

Principles and Application:

- 1. Real treasure is being with God.**
- 2. We should always choose to do what is right over what is easy.**
- 3. By following the Golden Rule, we will always treat others the way we want to be treated.**

Sermon on the Mount Part 2

Today we are going to continue to our study of the Sermon on the Mount. This sermon is found in Matthew chapters 5-7.

Review

The sermon begins when Jesus saw a crowd of people, he went up onto the side of a mountain, sat down, and began to teach. Since Jesus was speaking from the side of a mountain we refer to what He said that day as "The Sermon on the Mount."

Matthew 6

19 "Do not store up riches for yourselves here on earth, where moths and rust destroy, and robbers break in and steal. 20 Instead, store up riches for yourselves in heaven, where moths and rust cannot destroy, and robbers cannot break in and steal. 21 For your heart will always be where your riches are.

Question: So which is more valuable, treasure on earth or treasure in heaven?

That's right, your Bible is the most precious treasure you will ever own!

Next, let's look at the text found in Matthew 7:13-14. Jesus says "Enter through the narrow gate; for the gate is wide and the way is broad that leads to destruction, and there are many who enter through it. 14 For the gate is small and the way is narrow that leads to life, and there are few who find it.

In these verses Jesus talks about making wise decisions. He said there were two choices and the choices are like gates. One gate is very wide and easy to go through. Most people chose this gate. They choose to do what is easy instead of what is right. The other gate is narrow and harder to go through. Not as many people choose to go through it. The people that go through the narrow gate are willing to do what is right even if it comes with great difficulty.

Question: So where do you think the gates lead? Jesus said the wide gate leads to destruction and the narrow gate leads to a life in heaven. Which gate will you choose?

Next, let's talk about the verse from the Sermon on the Mount called the Golden Rule. It's given this name because if we will follow this rule, then we will always know how to treat other people. Would you like to hear what the Golden Rule is?

"In everything, therefore, treat people the same way you want them to treat you, for this is the Law and the Prophets.." Matthew 7:12

If someone hurts us we feel like hurting them back. But that is not the Golden Rule. The Golden Rule is that we only treat people like we wish to be treated. Jesus knew that following the Golden Rule would be difficult sometimes but do you remember what he said about the gates? Choosing to follow the Golden Rule is like going through the narrow gate. It may be more difficult but it leads to the best life!

Now we are going to shift our focus to the part of the Sermon of the Mount that is referred to as the Beatitudes. We can read about the Beatitudes in the book of Matthew chapter 5. These are short, but powerful verses of what it looks like to live life God's way.

Before we get into the text, let's talk about living a pure life before God. See this bottle of water. It reminds me what a pure heart before God looks like. There are no contaminants in this water. It's pure and clean. Nothing is floating around in here!

Question: Who would be willing to drink from this bottle? But, I wonder what a heart that is not pure looks like before God? (Open water bottle and add a little bit of dirt.) You might not notice a little bit of dirt in this water, but God can see it.

Question: Who would be willing to drink from this bottle now? Pull out bottle with lots of dirt and shake it up. This is what a life following after the ways of the world looks like.

Question: Who wants to drink out of this bottle? No way, it leads to the way of destruction. Remember the wide gate.

Use visual cards from Bible Fun for Kids.

The Beatitudes are about living the pure life before God.

1. Jesus began each beatitude with Blessed are... Blessed means happy.
2. (vs. 3) The Sermon on the Mount begins with Jesus saying "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven." This means that Jesus wants us to be humble, not selfish. Part of being humble is to do what Jesus wants, and not what we want. If we follow Jesus, He said we will receive the kingdom of heaven.
3. (vs. 4) Jesus said "Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted." When you mourn, you are very sad, you might cry. God wants us to be sad about the sin in our life. He wants us to obey Him! When we follow Jesus, He will comfort us.
4. (vs. 5) Next, Jesus said "Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth." If you are meek, you are gentle. Someone who is meek will think about others before themselves. Jesus talked a lot about helping others.
5. (vs. 6) "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be filled." Jesus wants us to really know Him. This means we must study the Bible and do what God wants, not what we want. If follow God, He will make sure that we are filled with His goodness.

6. (vs. 7) Jesus said “Blessed is the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.” If you have mercy, you show kindness and *forgiveness*. Jesus showed mercy, and He wants us to show mercy to others. If we are merciful, then God will show us mercy.

7. (vs. 8) “Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.” Jesus wants us to live for Him, and to live a Christian life. He wants us to follow the Bible. It is sometimes hard to do because it is easy to be caught up in the world and do things our friends are doing that Jesus doesn't like. But if we are pure in heart, we will see God in heaven.

8. (vs. 9) Next Jesus says “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.” God wants us to 'make peace' with the people around us. As much as we can! This isn't always easy, but God wants us to try and do the best we can. If we make peace, then we will be called sons of God.

9. (vs.10) “Blessed *are* those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven” How can you be happy if you are being mistreated? God tells us to stand up for Him. Turn away from things of the world, especially if they keep you from doing what God wants. This might be something like your friends making fun of you for coming to worship. Don't let that stop you from worshiping God. If you continue to be faithful, no matter what people say or do to you, Jesus said the kingdom of heaven will be ours.

10. (vs. 11-12) Jesus finishes up the beatitudes with “Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for My sake. Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.” This continues Jesus' thoughts on staying faithful to Him, even if people are making fun of you for following Jesus. Jesus told us to celebrate and be happy that that people are treating you badly because people did that to the prophets in the Old Testament that lived before Jesus. If people are making fun of you, then they can see that you are really living for Jesus and He said our reward will be great in heaven.

When Jesus taught The Beatitudes, he didn't say to pick which ones you think you can do. Jesus wants us to follow all The Beatitudes.

Questions:

1. What does the word blessed mean? happy

2. Being humble means to: do what Jesus wants or what we want?

3. What does God want us to be sad about not getting our way or doing what is wrong?

4. Jesus wants us to be meek. Who should we think about more ourselves or others?

5. Jesus says we should hunger and thirst for righteousness. How can we get to know Jesus better is it by drinking a glass of water or reading the Bible?

6. Jesus says blessed are those who show mercy. How can we show mercy to others by saying I'm sorry or by ignoring them?

7. Jesus says blessed are the pure in heart. Whose rules do we follow to be pure in heart, our rules or God's rules?

8. Jesus says blessed are the peacemakers. Is it always easy to get along with others? No, but we should try to stay calm when working out differences.

Principles and Applications:

- 1. God will bless me if I focus more on Him and less on my myself.**
- 2. Happiness comes when I do things God's way.**

Activities:

The Beatitudes Worksheet

Sermon on the Mount Part 3: Parable of Build Your House on the Rock and Be a Light

Today we will wrap up our three part study of the Sermon on the Mount. But before we do that, let's see what you remember so far.

Questions:

1. The Sermon on the Mount gets its name because Jesus was teaching from a boat or from the side of a mountain?
2. How should we treat others, the way we want to be treated or the way they treat us?
3. Which is more valuable, treasures on earth or treasures in heaven?
4. Which is more important when making a decision, doing what is easy or doing what is right?
5. What does the word blessed mean? (happy or sad)
6. Jesus says we should hunger and thirst for righteousness. How can we get to know Jesus better, is it by drinking a glass of water or by reading the Bible?
7. Jesus says blessed are the pure in heart. Whose rules do we follow to be pure in heart, our rules or God's rules?
8. What does God want us to be sad about not getting our way or when we do wrong?

Present Picture Cards <https://www.biblefunforkids.com/2014/09/parable-of-build-your-house-on-rock-be.html>

1. Today our lesson is a parable. A parable is an earthly story with a heavenly meaning. We can find today's parable about building your house on a rock in *Matthew 7:24-28* and *Luke 6:46-49*. We can read about being a light in *Matthew 5:14-15*.

Jesus was teaching in the desert. Jesus told this parable because the people could see the differences in where they would build their houses. It is so much easier to build on top of the sand instead of digging down to the rock below the sand. Jesus compared that to people. It is easier to listen to what Jesus tells them than to actually do what He says.

2. Jesus began by telling the people that whoever hears and does these things that He is telling them is like a wise man that builds his house on a rock.

When the rains came and floods built up, and the winds blew and beat on that house, the storms didn't make the house fall down, because it was built on a good rock foundation.

3. But the people that hear the words that Jesus tell them and doesn't do them is like the foolish man. The foolish man built his house on the sand.

When the rain came and the floods built up, the winds blew and beat on his house, the storms made the house on the sand fall down. *Matthew 7:27* "And great was its fall."

Make sure that Jesus is your rock foundation by studying the Bible and following His words. It takes work to be a Christian, just like it takes work to dig below the sand to find the rock. But it is worth the effort! Jesus is the Rock as we read in *Psalms 62:2*.

4. Jesus also told the people that "You are the light of the world."

Jesus told a parable of being a light. First, Jesus said that if a city is built on the top of a hill, it can't be hidden. It is up where everyone can see it.

5. Can you hide this city? No, it's built on top of a hill where it can be seen!

6. And when the people light a lamp, they don't hide it under a basket! You light a lamp to have light, so you put it on a lamp stand so everyone in the house can use the light. And so it was, when Jesus had ended these sayings, that the people were astonished at His teaching!

Questions:

- 1. What is a parable? An earthly story with a spirit meaning.**
- 2. Who was telling the parable? Was it Paul, John, or Jesus?**
- 3. What did the wise man build his house upon?**
- 4. What did the foolish man build his house upon?**
- 5. Whose house stayed together during the storm?**
- 6. Whose house fell apart during the storm?**
- 7. How can we be like the wise man? by studying the Bible and following God's words**

Activity:

Jesus is the Rock puzzle

Song: The Wise man Built His House Upon the Rock

Quarter #: 1	Class Age: 4-6 year olds	Lesson Title: Sunday - Healing Nobleman's Son + Paralytic Wednesday - Leper
Lesson #: 9	Prepared By: A. Alexander	Lesson Scripture: Sunday - John 4:46-54; Matt. 9:1-8 Wednesday - Matt. 8:1-13

Visuals / Resources:

Welcome Activity:

Coloring sheets

Prayer: Help us to trust you, God. Thank you for taking care of us. Help us to see your power and greatness.

Review: Memory verse, books of the Bible, questions from previous lessons.

On Wednesday review 2 miracles from Sunday's lesson.

Lesson Facts: (Main points to cover...)

Principle: (Concept / Key truth to be gained...)

See "Lessons" page

Application: (How student can apply...)

See "Lessons" page

Activities: (Wednesday) Cut out hearts, write Matt 14:14 on it. Have kids put band-aids on heart, and heart stickers.

Songs:

Other:

Lesson 9

Sunday → Healing the Nobleman's son + Paralytic

Lesson: Jesus was at CANA again.

Does that place sound familiar? where Jesus performed first miracle

What was the miracle? water to wine

What is a miracle? something that can't be explained. Through Jesus' power He can do things no one else can! He's powerful!

Well, Jesus is back in Cana, and there was a man, a royal official, who came to see Jesus and begged Jesus to heal his son. The boy was so sick that he was close to death! Jesus said, "Unless you people see signs + wonders, you simply will not believe." So these people around Jesus wanted to see miracles, otherwise they weren't going to believe that He was the Son of God! But the dad of the sick boy said to Jesus, begged Him, "Please come before my child dies." So this dad believed who Jesus was without seeing a miracle, and Jesus knows this. All Jesus said was, "Go, your son lives." The dad believed Jesus + obeyed and went home. He lived far away, so the next day when he was getting close to home, a worker met him and said that the son was alive! The dad asked when his son started feeling better + the worker said, "Yesterday, about the 7th hour," and the dad knew that was when Jesus told him that his son lives! That man and all his household believed in Jesus.

Here's another miracle: This time Jesus is getting into a boat when some people brought him a man who was paralyzed. What does it mean to be paralyzed?

can't walk

So this man couldn't walk. Since these people brought the paralyzed man, Jesus knew they had FAITH -
"believed that Jesus was the Son of God + knew He

could do miracles + heal. Jesus told the man, "Take courage son; your sins are forgiven."

READ Matt. 9:6-8

When mommies + daddies and other adults sin and need to repent, who can forgive us? Jesus can! Just like He forgave the paralyzed man. We can pray and ask for forgiveness + help. He has the power + authority to do that!

Principle: We need to believe what Jesus says + have faith that it will happen if He says it will. (Like the dad believed Jesus healed his son.)

Application: Jesus is SO POWERFUL! He can do anything; He can help us to be good, He can make people feel better - We need to trust Him, obey Him, and pray to Him.

Jesus is Lord of the Sabbath

Matthew 12: 1-14

What does the word Sabbath mean? The word Sabbath means to stop, to cease, or to keep.

Background on the Sabbath:

The Law of Moses set apart the Sabbath as a day unto the Lord. It was observed on the seventh day of the week because God rested on the seventh day when He had created the earth. But the Pharisees and others added strict regulations to the Law, making it a heavy burden for the people to observe. This is not what God intended. God wanted just the opposite. God designed the Sabbath as a day for man's good and for His glory.

Overview:

After Jesus healed the lame man, He returned to Galilee. Along the way, His disciples gathered a little wheat in a field and began to eat it. This angered the Pharisees, who accused the disciples of harvesting, or working, on the Sabbath. They criticized Him again when He reached a synagogue and healed a man with a withered hand. Following these events, the Pharisees plotted to kill Jesus.

Picture Cards <https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/jesus-withered-hand/Plucking Wheat In the Field>

1 At that time Jesus was going through a field of grain on the Sabbath. His disciples were hungry and began to pick the heads of grain and eat them.

2 When the Pharisees saw this, they said to him, "See, your disciples are doing what is unlawful to do on the Sabbath."

3 He said to them, "Have you not read what David did when he and his companions were hungry,

4 how he went into the house of God and ate the bread of offering, which neither he nor his companions but only the priests could lawfully eat?

5 Or have you not read in the law that on the Sabbath the priests serving in the temple violate the Sabbath and are innocent?

6 I say to you, something greater than the temple is here.

7 If you knew what this meant, 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice,' you would not have condemned these innocent men.

8 For the Son of Man is Lord of the Sabbath."

The Man with a Withered Hand.

9 Moving on from there, he went into their synagogue.

10 And behold, there was a man there who had a withered hand. They questioned him, "Is it lawful to cure on the Sabbath?" so that they might accuse him.

11 He said to them, "Which one of you who has a sheep that falls into a pit on the Sabbath will not take hold of it and lift it out?"

12 How much more valuable a person is than a sheep. So it is lawful to do good on the Sabbath."

13 Then he said to the man, "Stretch out your hand." He stretched it out, and it was restored as sound as the other.

14 But the Pharisees went out and took counsel against him to put him to death.

Discussion:

Let's take a moment and notice the questions from Jesus to the Pharisees.

1. Is it lawful to do good or to do evil? Jesus was doing good by healing. The Pharisees were doing evil.

2. Is it lawful to save life or to kill? Jesus was saving life. The Pharisees were plotting to take Jesus' life.

Questions:

1. What day was it when Jesus and His disciples were walking through the field and picking grain to eat? Was it the Sabbath Day or Tuesday?

2. What did the Pharisees say about the disciples eating the grain? Did they say it was a good idea since they needed something to eat or unlawful?

3. True or False Jesus tells the Pharisees that the disciples are innocent.

4. What did Jesus restore for the man in the synagogue? Was it his hand or his foot?

5. True or False The Pharisees were amazed as they witnessed Jesus restoring the man's withered hand.

6. After Jesus restored the man's hand, what did the Pharisees want to do? Was it have Jesus perform more miracles or put Him to death.

Principles and Application:

1. Do not add or take away from God's Word.

2. Traditions of men are not commandments of God.

Review Questions

1. This quarter we are talking about the life of Jesus. Who remembers the first four books in the New Testament where we can read about Jesus?
2. Who remembers us talking about miracles? We said that a miracle is an act of _____ that proved that Jesus was the Savior.
3. Who remembers the first miracle that Jesus performed? Jesus turned _____ into wine?
4. The second miracle that Jesus performed is found in John 4:54. There was a nobleman that had a sick _____. Was it a son or daughter?
5. When the nobleman heard that Jesus was in Cana, he went to Jesus and begged Him to go to Capernaum (about 20 miles away) to heal his son because he was close to _____. (getting well or death)
6. Jesus told the man: "Go your way; your son lives." How did the man respond to this statement did he continue to beg Jesus to come to his house, or did he believe and return home?
7. When the nobleman returned home, he asked his servants at what hour his son started feeling better? They told him about the seventh hour. The nobleman realized that it was the same hour when Jesus told him, "Your son _____." Is it your son will eventually get better, or your son lives!
8. The third miracle we talked about was the healing of the paralytic. The paralytic was unable to use what part of his body? Was it his arms or his legs?
9. Jesus asked the paralytic if he wanted to be healed? The paralytic said ____!
10. Jesus responded to the paralytic by saying your _____ are forgiven.
11. Next, Jesus told the paralytic to take up his _____ and walk.
12. The fourth miracle we talked about was when Jesus healed the man with leprosy. It was a terrible disease where a person had _____ all over their bodies?
13. The man with leprosy came to Jesus, fell with his face on the ground and begged Jesus to heal him if he was willing. Jesus told the leper that he was _____. Was it willing or not willing to heal him?
14. Jesus reached out and said "Be clean." After Jesus says these words, how long did it take the leprosy to go away? Was it several days, or immediately?

Quarter #: 1	Class Age: 4-6 year olds	Lesson Title: Sunday - Parable of the Sower Wednesday - Parable of the Tares
Lesson #: 11	Prepared By: A. Alexander	Lesson Scripture: Matt. 12-13

Visuals / Resources: For each type of dirt, get a clear cup + put each type of dirt in it. Hold it up when talking about each.

Picture cards for Tares parable

Welcome Activity: Coloring sheet

Prayer: Help us to grow in you, and be a good example for others.

Review:

Lesson Facts: (Main points to cover...)

Principle: (Concept / Key truth to be gained...)

See "Lesson" page

Application: (How student can apply...)

See "Lesson" page

Activities: "I am growing in God" - glue flowers on stems with ways we can grow in God.
Write notes, draw pictures encouraging + thanking our elders for all they do.

Songs:

Other: ~~None~~

Lesson 11

Sunday - Parable of the Sower

Lesson: Jesus has been teaching + healing lots of people and proving that He is the Son of God! When Jesus teaches, He tells a lot of PARABLES. A parable is a story that teaches us about God + Jesus and how we should act + live.

Today we're going to learn about the Parable of the Sower.

Jesus had a big crowd listening to Him + He told this parable, or story. He told them about a man who sowed seeds, or planted seeds. This man had lots of seeds + he scattered them (demonstrate). Well the seeds go everywhere!

* Some seeds fell next to the road + birds ate them!

* Others fell in rocky places + there wasn't much dirt. Those seeds immediately sprouted because there wasn't much dirt. But once the sun hit + came out, the plant was scorched + just shriveled.

* Some seeds fell among thorns + the thorns grew faster than the seed + took all the food + light away from the seed. The thorns choked out the seed.

* But, some seeds fell on good dirt + made a crop!

Hmmm... what do you think this all means?

The Seed Jesus talks about = hearing God's word preached or taught.

Seed that fell by the road = this is when someone hears about God but doesn't understand it, the devil comes + grabs what he's heard in his heart.

Seed that fell in Rocky Places = this is the person who hears about God + is so HAPPY to learn. But he isn't strong. So when there are hard times - like getting made fun of for obeying God - he doesn't obey anymore; he falls away.

Seed thrown among the Thorns = this person hears, but is TOO WORRIED about WORLDLY things (money, making other people happy, putting all their effort into sports/activities) that they don't grow in God. They're too busy with other things.

Seed on the Good Soil = this is the person who hears what God says & understands it! This person is helpful to God and serves Him in his life! They tell others about God, help people, read their bible.

Principle: It is very important that we are "Good Seed" for God!

Application: We can be Good Seed for God by obeying our parents, reading the Bible, praying for others, being nice to everyone, encourage people (write notes, talk to them).

Lesson 11

Wednesday - parable of the Tares

Lesson: Remember, Jesus taught alot in parables, stories that help us learn how we should live.

Jesus told this one to the crowds: There was a man who planted good seed. While everyone was sleeping, the enemy planted BAD seed next to the good! When the grain sprouted the workers could tell there was bad seed with the good wheat!

Workers went to the farmer & said, "Didn't you plant good seed? Why is there bad growing too?" The farmer knew this was done by an enemy! Workers asked, "Should we pull the bad plants?" Farmer said, "No. If you pull the bad tares now, you might pull up the good plants too. Just leave them be for now. At harvest, we'll tell the reapers (people who get crops out of the fields), to put the bad plants into bundles & then burn them. The good plants, the wheat, we'll put in my barn."

: What does this all mean?!

* Use cards to explain. The cards have explanation on back so you can just read it while holding up picture.

Principle: It is VERY IMPORTANT to be "Good Seed" for God!

Application: We can be good seed for God by obeying our parents, reading the Bible, praying for others, being nice to everyone, encouraging people! If good seed for God, then we can be safe in Heaven with God someday!

Parables of the Kingdom of Heaven Part 1

Opening: Today we are going to learn about a couple of parables that Jesus used to explain the Kingdom of Heaven. Does anyone remember what a parable is? It's an earthly example that Jesus used to explain a moral truth when He spoke to the crowds. Today's parables are found in Matthew chapter 13:31-34. The theme of the parables is how great things start with small beginnings.

Show children mustard seed and ask them if they know what it is? Ask them what happens when we plant seeds in the right kind of soil? Remember this little seed as we read the Bible passages in Matthew.

Use visual cards as you read Bible passages:

Card 1

Matthew 13:31-32 says

31 Jesus presented another parable to them, saying, "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and sowed in his field; 32 and this is smaller than all *other* seeds, but when it is full grown, it is larger than the garden plants and becomes a tree, so that THE BIRDS OF THE AIR come and NEST IN ITS BRANCHES."

Discussion: Show mustard seed to children again. Remember this little seed? Jesus says this little seed represents small beginnings. As time passes this little seed becomes a plant. When this plant is fully grown into a tree birds can nest in it.

Show picture by Martha Curry from a Curry Creation of Mustard trees.

"A Mustard Tree grows up to 12 feet tall. It also spreads and invades everything around it. Just like our faith should spread and invade everything around us. When we tell others about God, we are making God's Kingdom grow and spread."

Next show children some yeast. Ask them if they know what it is? Do you know what it's used for? Yeast, also called leaven, is added to bread to make it rise.

Now let's look at the passage found in Matthew 13:33

33 Jesus spoke another parable to them, "The kingdom of heaven is like leaven, which a woman took and hid in three measures of flour until it was all leavened."

Discussion: Show children the yeast again and explain: Just like this small amount of yeast is needed to bake bread, the message about God started small because Jesus could only tell the people in His own country about God. But then, as His disciples told more and more people about God, and as we tell more and more people about God, then the message about God will expand, just like the little bit of yeast makes the whole loaf of bread rise.

Review Questions:

1. What type of seed does Jesus refer to as the smallest seed planted in a garden? Was it the Mustard seed or the apple seed?
2. What is amazing about a very small mustard seed? When it is planted it grows into a small bush or is it a tree that birds can nest in?
3. In the second parable that we learned about today, what was added to the bread to make it rise? Was it salt or yeast?
4. The Kingdom of Heaven is like yeast when we do what with God's Word? Is it keep it to ourselves or share it with others?

Principles and Applications:

1. Great things start from small beginnings.
2. The Parable of the Mustard Seed represents how the Kingdom of Heaven will become the Greatest.
3. The Parable of the Leaven represents how the Kingdom will be everywhere.

Quarter #: 1	Class Age: 4-6 year olds	Lesson Title: Jesus feeds 5,000; Heals blind man
Lesson #: 13	Prepared By: A. Alexander	Lesson Scripture: Matt. 14; John 9

Visuals / Resources:

Welcome Activity: Coloring sheet

Prayer: Thank you for providing for us. Help us serve others.

Review: Previous lessons, books of Bible, Memory Verse

Lesson Facts: (Main points to cover...)

Principle: (Concept / Key truth to be gained...) Jesus is Powerful + can do anything!

Application: (How student can apply...) Sometimes we'll go through hard times in life or have problems. Maybe we get sick alot. We need to trust God, follow His instructions, pray for help, and tell others the good things God has done! Nothing is too big for God!

Activities: "Feeding the 5000" sign craft (ordered from Oriental Trading)

Songs: Books of the Bible, Jesus Loves Me, Trust and Obey

Other:

Lesson 13 Jesus feeds 5,000; Heals Blind man

Lesson: Who remembers what a MIRACLE is? something that can't be explained; it shouldn't be able to happen.

Jesus' 1st miracle was Him turning Water into Wine. We've also talked about Him healing the Nobleman's son, the man with leprosy, the man who was paralyzed.

Today we're going to learn about 2 more miracles Jesus performed!

Like usual there was a big crowd. When Jesus saw them He had compassion for them, and healed the sick that had come. That right there is miraculous too! But it was starting to get late, and the disciples, Jesus' special friends, said to Jesus, "This place is desolate, or empty, and it's getting late. Send everyone away so they can go buy food for themselves." Jesus didn't want them sent away. Instead He told the disciples, "You give them something to eat."

Disciples said, "We have 5 loaves of bread + 2 fish." Jesus asked for the food.

READ Matt. 14:19

So that little amount of food fed 5,000 men, plus women + children! How? A miracle - Jesus is POWERFUL and can do ANYTHING!

Now I'm going to turn my Bible to the book of John. There was a man who was blind from birth.

What does it mean to be blind? can't see

So he's never been able to see!

The disciples asked Jesus, "Who sinned to make him blind? His mom + dad or himself?" They thought maybe his blindness was someone's punishment for sin, but Jesus said, "Neither. He's blind so God can show His power and might!"

READ John 9:4-5

Jesus needs to do what God the Father wants Him to do while Jesus is on earth.

Then Jesus spit on the ground, made clay - rubbed spit + dirt

together - rubbed the clay to the man's eyes. Jesus told him "Wash in the pool of Siloam."

So the man followed the instructions + came back seeing! Well some of his neighbors saw him + asked, "Hey, isn't this the guy who used to sit + beg?" Some said YES it's him, others said NO just looks like the same guy. But he told them IT'S ME! They wanted to know how he could see now.

READ John 9:11

Principle: Jesus is Powerful + can do anything!

Application: Sometimes we'll go through hard times in life or have problems. Maybe we get sick alot. We need to trust God, follow His instructions, pray for help, and tell others the good things God has done! Nothing is too big for God!