



THE BEATITUDES

“The Beatitudes are at the heart of Jesus’ preaching. They take up the promises made to the chosen people since Abraham. The Beatitudes fulfill the promises by ordering them no longer merely to the possession of a territory, but to the Kingdom of heaven ...

The Beatitudes depict the countenance of Jesus Christ and portray his charity. They express the vocation of the faithful associated with the glory of his Passion and Resurrection; they shed light on the actions and attitudes characteristic of the Christian life; they are the paradoxical promises that sustain hope in the midst of tribulations; they proclaim the blessings and rewards already secured, however dimly, for Christ’s disciples; they have begun in the lives of the Virgin Mary and all the saints.

The Beatitudes respond to the natural desire for happiness. This desire is of divine origin: God has placed it in the human heart in order to draw man to the One who alone can fulfill it:

We all want to live happily; in the whole human race there is no one who does not assent to this proposition, even before it is fully articulated.¹³...

The Beatitudes reveal the goal of human existence, the ultimate end of human acts: God calls us to his own beatitude. This vocation is addressed to each individual personally, but also to the Church as a whole, the new people made up of those who have accepted the promise and live from it in faith.”

¹³ St. Augustine, *De moribus eccl.* 1,3, 4: PL 32, 1312.

What Did You Learn About The Beatitudes?

for younger saints

1. How many Beatitudes are there?
2. Living the Beatitudes will help us become
 - a. a saint.
 - b. a doctor.
 - c. Jesus.
3. Vocabulary matching (definitions are from this lesson)

meek

clean and pure

mourn

humble and kind

mercy

those who work to keep
people together

chaste

sadness for sin

peacemakers

love shown to people
who are hard to love

4. Write or recite your memory verse for this month.

What Did You Learn About The Beatitudes?

for younger saints

1. How many Beatitudes are there?

eight

2. Living the Beatitudes will help us become

a. a saint.

b. a doctor.

c. Jesus.

3. Vocabulary matching (definitions are from this lesson)

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peacemakers	love shown to people who are hard to love

4. Write or recite your memory verse for this month.

In the presence of the tabernacle, genuflect (touch your right knee to the floor) while making the Sign of the Cross: "In the name of the Father (touch forehead with right hand), and of the Son (touch chest), and of the Holy (touch left shoulder) Spirit (touch right shoulder). Amen." (fold hands).

What Did You Learn About The Beatitudes?

for older saints

1. Jesus gave us the Beatitudes during the
 - a. Last Supper.
 - b. Ten Commandments.
 - c. Sermon on the Mount.
2. How many Beatitudes are there?
3. Match the first and last half of each Beatitude.

Blessed are the poor in spirit,	for they will inherit the land.
Blessed are they who mourn,	for they will be satisfied.
Blessed are the meek,	for they will see God.
Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness,	for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
Blessed are the merciful,	for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
Blessed are the clean of heart,	for they will be called children of God.
Blessed are the peacemakers,	for they will be shown mercy.
Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness,	for they will be comforted.

- 4 . Recite your memory verse.

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- 4 . Recite your memory verse. **The Beatitudes:** Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are they who mourn, for they will be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the land. Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be satisfied. Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy. Blessed are the clean of heart, for they will see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. *Matthew 5:3-10*