One day many people came to hear Jesus speak. He came and spoke to them on the mountainside. He preached here to show us that God is everywhere and always hears our prayers. This is where Jesus told us everything we need to know in order to lead good Christian lives, who do the right thing and find true happiness. The Liturgy reminds us of these 9 instructions called The Beatitudes every Sunday during the Divine Liturgy. Jesus is letting us know that we must think and behave a certain way to find true peace and happiness, and that we can only reach this goal with God’s help.

—Beatitudes—

1. **Blessed** are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
2. **Blessed** are they who mourn, for they shall be comforted.
3. **Blessed** are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.
4. **Blessed** are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.
5. **Blessed** are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.
6. **Blessed** are the pure of heart, for they shall see God.
7. **Blessed** are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.
8. **Blessed** are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
9. **Blessed** are you when men revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account.

*Rejoice* and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven.

Matthew 5:1-19

“And seeing the multitudes, he went up into a mountain: and when he was set, his disciples came unto him: And he opened his mouth, an taught them, saying,” …the Beatitudes…” Whosoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven: but whosoever shall do and teach them, the same shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven.”

Matthew 5:1-19
Follow the instructions Jesus gave us to find true happiness and succeed at getting from earth to the Kingdom of Heaven.

PRAYER – the Beatitudes

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
Blessed are they who mourn, for they shall be comforted.
Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.
Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.
Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.
Blessed are the pure of heart, for they shall see God.
Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.
Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
Blessed are you when men revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account.
Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven.
Sermon on the Mount – the Beatitudes
{Teacher’s Edition}

Lesson Objective: To have children understand the meaning of Jesus’ guidelines to achieve happiness and be truly blessed.

Introduction: One day many people came to hear Jesus speak. He came and spoke to them on the mountainside. He preached here to show us that God is everywhere and always hears our prayers. This is where Jesus told us everything we need to know in order to lead good Christian lives, who do the right thing and find true happiness. The Liturgy reminds us of these 9 instructions called The Beatitudes every Sunday during the Divine Liturgy. Jesus is letting us know that we must think and behave a certain way to find true peace and happiness, and that we can only reach this goal with God’s help.

Bible Reading: “And seeing the multitudes, he went up into a mountain: and when he was set, his disciples came unto him: And he opened his mouth, and taught them, saying,” …the Beatitudes… “Whosoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven: but whosoever shall do and teach them, the same shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven.” Matthew 5:1-19

Highlights: With the Beatitudes Jesus teaches us to be sorry for our mistakes, to be gentle and kind, compassionate and helpful, and to live with clean hearts.

We must follow God’s teachings no matter how difficult, regardless of what others may say. Without God in our hearts and lives we are all poor.

If we follow God’s wishes we will find inner peace, joy, happiness, and be truly blessed in the kingdom of Heaven.

Activity: Have children complete the maze.

Prayer: The Beatitudes

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. We need to realize that without God in our lives, we are all poor.

Blessed are they who mourn, for they shall be comforted. We have to be sorry for our sins and bring God back into our hearts.

Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth. We must be gentle, kind while living with the firm conviction of God’s teachings.

Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied. We will only find happiness through God, so we must always search for ways to get closer to Him.

Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy. We must have compassion and help those who don’t have God in their hearts realize that there is only one path to happiness, and that is with God.

Blessed are the pure of heart, for they shall see God. It is best to live with grace and purity as this will bring us closer to God.

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God. If we help others find peace in their lives, we will have peace in our hearts.

Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. No matter what others may say, we must always follow the path towards God.

Blessed are you when men revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Sometimes it is difficult to do the right thing, but this is the only way to find true peace and happiness with God.

Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven. If we follow God’s wishes, we will find inner peace, joy and happiness, and be truly blessed in the Kingdom of Heaven.