

## A FAMILY JOURNEY THROUGH THE BEATITUDES: A SERIES OF 9 DEVOTIONS

April 10, 2025

How can we help our children understand true happiness and blessing? The Beatitudes, found in <a href="Matthew 5:1-12">Matthew 5:1-12</a>, offer a beautiful picture of the hope and joy that come from following Jesus, even in difficult times. Rather than chasing temporary happiness, Jesus invites us to find lasting fulfillment by trusting God's promises, showing kindness, and living humbly. As families, we can explore these powerful truths together—asking questions, embracing challenges, and modeling faith in everyday life.



This devotional series walks through each beatitude, helping us discover how to live out Jesus' teachings and experience the abundant life he promises.

<u>The Beatitudes: Hope-Filled Blessings</u>: Jesus turns our idea of blessings upside down, showing us a better way to live. When he says things that seem unexpected or puzzling, he's inviting us to think deeper, ask questions, and uncover the real hope in his words. Let's begin this journey of discovery together!

<u>Beatitude 1 Depend on God</u>: What does it mean to trust that God will take care of us? True blessing comes when we rely on God's strength rather than our own. Explore how dependence on God brings peace, confidence, and joy.

Beatitude 2 Blessed by Sadness?: Jesus says that those who mourn are blessed—but what does that mean? He's talking about the deep sorrow caused by sin in the world. Yet, his promise of comfort brings hope, even for our children. How does Jesus meet us in our sadness?

Beatitude 3 Lead Like Jesus: Humility doesn't mean letting others take advantage of us. Instead, it's about serving others out of love—just like Jesus did. Read John 13:1-19 together and discover what true leadership looks like, and how being humble is an important part of being a leader

<u>Beatitude 4 Filling Up with Obedience</u>: Hungering for righteousness means having a deep desire to do what's right. But obedience isn't always easy! What is God's exciting plan for us, and how can we follow him and obey his commands with eagerness and courage?

Beatitude 5 Showing Mercy Like Jesus: Mercy is more than just kindness—it's compassion in action. Jesus showed mercy every day, even to those who hurt him. How can we receive his mercy and reflect it in our own lives?

<u>Beatitude 6 Zoomed in on God</u>: Having a pure heart means keeping our thoughts, emotions, and attitudes focused on God. But with so many distractions, how do we stay centered on him? Let's explore what it means to seek God wholeheartedly and keep our focus on him

Beatitude 7 Peacemakers: Jesus calls us to be peacemakers, bringing his love into our relationships. What does it look like to build bridges, seek unity, and reflect the peace of Christ in our daily lives?

Beatitude 8 Following God (Even When It's Hard): Standing firm in our faith isn't always easy. Jesus knew his followers would face challenges but promised they wouldn't be alone. How can we remain firm in our faith, even when it's difficult?

The Beatitudes invite us to live differently—to seek God's kingdom instead of chasing what the world offers. As we walk through these devotions together, may our families grow in faith, learn to trust Jesus more deeply, and find the true blessings he promises. Let's take this journey together!

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written by Ron VandenBurg

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