

Family Faith Guide

The Beatitudes – Week 8

Blessed Are the Persecuted

Matthew 5:10



*Blessed are those who are persecuted
for righteousness' sake, for theirs is
the kingdom of heaven.*

— Matthew 5:10



Big Idea

Following Jesus does not promise an easy life. Christ calls us to faithfulness even when obedience brings suffering, and He promises the kingdom to those who endure for righteousness' sake.



Who Do You Say Jesus Is?

- Many expected a triumphant Messiah, not a suffering Savior.
- In Matthew 16, Peter confessed Jesus as "the Christ, the Son of the living God."
- Rightly knowing Jesus helps us rightly understand suffering and discipleship.
- Scripture: Matthew 16:13–20.



The Way of the Cross

- Jesus said that He must suffer, and then He called His followers to take up their cross and follow Him.
- Discipleship means surrender, perseverance, and trust.
- God may bless and protect us, but He never promised a trouble-free life.
- Scripture: Matthew 16:21–25.



The Bible Doesn't Sugarcoat Suffering

- Moses wandered in the wilderness, Isaiah was sent to hard hearts, and John the Baptist suffered in prison.
- The early church endured persecution with faith and hope.
- Scripture is honest about hardship in a broken world.
- Scripture: Isaiah 6:8–10; Matthew 11:2–6; 1 Peter 1:6–9.



Our Hope in Suffering

- Suffering is not proof that God has abandoned His people.
- In Christ, our standing with God rests on the cross, not our circumstances.
- Our joy is anchored not in comfort, but in God's presence and the coming kingdom.
- Scripture: Romans 8:1; 1 John 2:15–17.



Bible Examples

- David endured danger long after his victory over Goliath.
- Isaiah obeyed even when people would not listen.
- John the Baptist suffered for his faithfulness.
- The apostles persevered through persecution with hope.



Talk About It

1. Why were the disciples surprised that the Messiah would suffer?
2. What does it mean to take up your cross and follow Jesus?
3. How should believers respond when hardship tempts them to doubt God's love?
4. How does the promise of the kingdom help us endure suffering?



Family Challenge

This week, read Matthew 5:10–12 and 1 Peter 1:6–9. When disappointment or hardship comes, pause and pray: "Lord, anchor my joy in Your presence and help me remain faithful."



Prayer

Father, when suffering, disappointment, or opposition come, keep us rooted in Christ. Strengthen us by Your Spirit, guard us from condemnation, and remind us that Your presence is greater than our pain. Help us follow Jesus faithfully and trust the promise of Your kingdom. In Jesus' name, amen.

