

Family Faith Guide for CHILDREN

The Beatitudes – Week 8

Blessed Are Those Who Are Persecuted!

Matthew 5:10-12



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

— Matthew 5:10



Big Idea

Following Jesus is not always easy. Sometimes people will be mean to us or make fun of us because we love and obey Him. But Jesus says we are blessed! When we stay faithful, we belong to God's kingdom, and He is always with us.



What Does Persecuted Mean?

- It means people are mean to you, hurt you, or treat you unfairly because you follow Jesus.
- It can be teasing, being left out, or worse.
- Jesus experienced this, and He tells us to expect it too.
- We can stay strong because Jesus is with us!



Remember Jesus

- Jesus was perfect and did only good things, but people still treated Him badly.
- He was made fun of, accused unfairly, and even died on a cross.
- Jesus didn't give up. He trusted God. We can trust Him too!



Why It Matters

- It shows we belong to Jesus.
- God sees what happens, and He cares.
- We are part of something bigger—God's kingdom!
- Even when life is hard, we can have joy because Jesus is with us.



How to Be Faithful

- Love God and do what is right, even when it's hard.
- Be kind, even to those who are not kind.
- Pray for people who treat you badly.
- Remember that Jesus is with you, and He will give you strength.



Bible Examples

- Jesus was persecuted and still trusted God. (Isaiah 53:7; Matthew 26–27)
- The early believers were persecuted but kept sharing about Jesus. (Acts 4:1–31)
- Paul was beaten and put in jail, but he kept following Jesus. (2 Corinthians 11:23–27)



Talk About It

1. What does it mean to be persecuted for doing what is right?
2. Why do you think Jesus says we are blessed when this happens?
3. How can you be faithful to Jesus at school, at home, or with friends?



Family Challenge

This week, do one brave thing for Jesus. It might be standing up for what is right, being kind when someone is mean, or praying for someone who is hard to like.



Prayer

Dear Jesus, thank You for being with us, even when life is hard. Help me to be brave, kind, and faithful. Give me joy that cannot be taken away. Amen.

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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.

