GENERATIONS OF GRACE

YEAR 3 · LESSON 8

Jesus' Sermons

Matthew 7:13–14

QUESTIONS

AGES 3–5

1. Who taught people about God? *Jesus.*
2. Where did Jesus teach many people? *On a mountainside.*
3. What did Jesus teach people to do? *Love God and obey Him.*
4. Why should we listen to Jesus? *Because Jesus speaks God's truth.*

AGES 6–8

1. What is a sermon? *A message that teaches God's truth.*
2. What is the Sermon on the Mount? *One of Jesus' most famous sermons.*
3. What did Jesus teach about loving others? *We should treat others the way we want to be treated and love our enemies.*
4. How did the people react to Jesus' teaching? *They were amazed because He taught with authority.*

AGES 9–11

1. Why were Jesus' sermons different from other teachers' messages? *Jesus taught with God's authority and perfect truth.*
2. What are the Beatitudes? *Blessings Jesus taught at the beginning of the Sermon on the Mount.*
3. What did Jesus teach about obedience? *Hearing God's Word is not enough; we must obey it.*
4. How did Jesus conclude the Sermon on the Mount? *With the parable of the wise and foolish builders.*

INTRODUCE

AGES 3–5

GOOD LISTENERS

Ask the children to follow a few simple instructions such as standing, sitting, or touching their noses. Praise those who listen carefully. Explain that Jesus taught people important truths, and God wants us to listen to Him.

STORY TIME

Gather the children in a circle and read a short story. Ask questions about what they heard. Explain that Jesus often taught crowds of people, and they listened carefully to His words.

AGES 6–8

WHOSE ADVICE WOULD YOU FOLLOW?

Ask students who they would ask for advice if they had a difficult problem. Discuss parents, teachers, pastors, and trusted friends. Explain that Jesus gave the greatest wisdom because He is God's Son.

BUILDING INSTRUCTIONS

Show a set of building instructions or a simple blueprint. Ask what might happen if someone ignored the instructions. Explain that Jesus taught people how to live God's way and that wise people follow His teaching.

AGES 9–11

POWERFUL SPEECHES

Ask students whether they have ever heard a speech, sermon, or message that made a strong impression on them. Explain that Jesus delivered sermons that changed people's lives because He taught God's truth perfectly.

AUTHORITY

Ask students what gives a person authority to teach. Discuss examples such as teachers, pastors, police officers, or judges. Explain that Jesus taught with authority because He is the Son of God and the source of truth.

ILLUSTRATE

AGES 3–5

HEARING AND DOING

Materials:

Simple objects such as a ball, block, and book

Directions:

Give the children simple instructions such as "Pick up the ball" or "Touch the book." Explain that listening is important, but obeying is even more important. Jesus taught people not only to hear God's Word but also to do what it says.

BUILDING ON THE ROCK

Materials:

Blocks, a flat board or sturdy surface, and a soft pillow

Directions:

Build a small tower on a firm surface and another on the pillow. Explain that Jesus said wise people are like someone who builds a house on a rock by listening to and obeying God's Word. But the one who does not listen is like a house built on an unsteady surface and falls easily.

AGES 6–8

WISE AND FOOLISH BUILDERS

Materials:

Two trays, sand, flat rock or sturdy board, and building blocks

Directions:

Build one small structure on sand and another on a firm surface. Gently shake the trays. Discuss which structure remains standing. Explain that Jesus taught that obedience to God's Word is the foundation of a strong life.

PUTTING GOD'S WORD INTO PRACTICE

Ask students to think of one teaching of Jesus they can obey this week. Encourage them to write it down and practice it every day. Pray for God's help to become doers of His Word.

AGES 9–11

THE FOUNDATION TEST

Materials:

Blocks, firm board, and a soft pillow or cushion

Directions:

Build identical structures on each surface. Test their stability by gently shaking them. Discuss how foundations determine strength. Explain that Jesus taught that people who hear and obey God's Word are like wise builders who build on rock.

BUILDING ON THE ROCK

Read Matthew 7:24–27 together. Ask students to identify one area where they need to obey Jesus more faithfully. Challenge them to take one practical step this week to build their lives on the foundation of God's Word.