

Questions / Answers

1. What did Jesus teach the people about?
Jesus taught about God's salvation and the Kingdom of God.
2. Name 5 of the characteristics that Jesus said we need to please God.
Poor in spirit, mourning about sin, meek, hungry for righteousness, merciful, pure in heart, peacemakers, suffer for your beliefs.
3. What is a parable?
It is a story which teaches a lesson.
4. What did Jesus teach us by his story of the two roads?
The easy, broad road leads to death. The narrow, difficult road leads to God's Kingdom.
5. In Jesus' story, who helped the man wounded by robbers?
The Samaritan helped the wounded man.
6. What does the story of the good Samaritan teach us?
That we should be kind and helpful to anyone who is in need.
7. Tell the story of the two houses.
One man built on rock, the other man built on sand. When the storm came the house on sand fell down, but the house on rock was strong.
8. What does this parable teach us?
To build our lives on the strong teaching of Jesus.
9. Who should we put first in our lives, who second and who last?
God first, others second, ourselves last.
10. God knows when sparrows fall. What does that teach us?
We are God's children. He will care for us in all our troubles.

Memory verses

Matthew 5:3—10

Matthew 5:14—16

Matthew 6:26 & 32

Discussion

Look at Jesus' teaching in Matthew 5:1—16. Discuss what each characteristic means and how we can show it in our own lives.

Writing

Why did Jesus teach in parables? Write about one parable that Jesus told and what it means.

CBM Senior Lessons

Lesson 33 Jesus—his teaching



READING Matthew 5:1—10 & 13—16; 7:13—14 & 24—27;
Luke 10:29—37

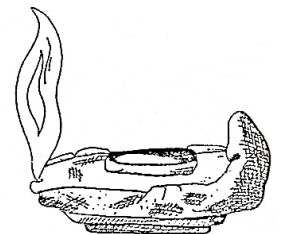
LESSON

Jesus came to fulfil all God's promises. He came to bring salvation to men and women of all nations. Jesus taught the people for about three years. He taught them about God's salvation. He told people about the Kingdom that God will establish on the earth. Jesus told them that if they want to be in God's Kingdom they must love God and live to please Him.

Jesus taught that people need to change their way of thinking and behaving. The Law that God gave through Moses told people the difference between right and wrong. The Law was a set of rules to keep. Jesus made the Law even greater. Jesus showed men the law of love. Jesus taught that people should **want** to do good to show their love for God. They must control their thoughts as well as their actions. People should love God and other people more than they love themselves.

Jesus taught that God wants us to be His children. God loves us and has given us so many good things. We must try to show God's love to other people. This means more than just loving our family and friends. It means being kind to everyone. Jesus showed us the perfect example of how to live as God's children. Jesus was kind to everyone he met. He forgave those who were unkind to him. Jesus was never selfish. He always put God and other people before himself. Jesus overcame all his temptations. He lived a perfect life. Jesus gave his perfect life as a sacrifice on the cross. He died so that our sins can be forgiven. He died so that we have the hope of salvation. We must try to follow his perfect example in our lives.

Jesus said that the Christian must be like salt, which makes our food tasty. He must be an influence for good to those around him. The Christian must be like a lamp shining out as an example to others. He must show God's goodness and love to other people in his life.



Jesus taught that people who love and please God, will be happy, or blessed. He told them what sort of people God wanted them to be.

Poor in spirit - people who do not trust in riches, but trust in God, who are humble and seek God's mercy

Mourners - people who are unhappy about sin and death

Meek - people who walk in God's way, not their own

Hunger and thirst for righteousness - people who long to know and do what is right

Merciful - people who forgive others

Pure in heart - people who do not do, or even think, evil

Peacemakers - people who teach others to live in peace, without jealousy or anger

Persecuted for righteousness - people who are prepared to suffer for their beliefs

This was what Jesus was like. We must try to be like him. It is very difficult to develop this character. It is not a character that will help us to be successful in this life or to be admired by people in the world. But the reward for pleasing God is very great - to be called God's children, to have all our desires fulfilled in the Kingdom of God. We need to make every effort to live to please God. We need to pray to God and read His word regularly to help us.

Jesus often used stories to help people remember his teaching. He used pictures from everyday life. The story or picture helped people to remember the lesson. These stories are called parables. Jesus told the people many parables.

Jesus said that it would not be easy to follow his teaching. It would not be easy to live as God's children. Many people would not even try. Jesus told them that life is like two roads. One road has a narrow entrance and the road is rough and steep. Only a few people go along it. This road is the way of life. It leads to God's Kingdom. Then there is another road. It is wide and easy to follow. Many people go along that road. But the easy road leads to death. Let us follow Christ to God's Kingdom however difficult the path may be.



Jesus told a story about a man who was attacked by robbers on the road from Jerusalem down to Jericho. He was left to die by the roadside. A priest came along the road, but he did not help the man. He walked past on the other side of the road. Next a Levite came along the road. He saw the wounded man, but he walked past on the other side of the road.

Lastly a Samaritan came by. The Samaritans were enemies of the Jews. But when the Samaritan saw the wounded man, he bandaged his wounds and took him to an inn and took care of him. He paid for him to be looked after until he was well.

Jesus asked the question, "Who was neighbour to the wounded man?" Jesus was teaching that we should help anyone in need, whether we like them or not. A neighbour in need is not only someone who lives near to us. A neighbour is anyone who needs our help. God gives us so much love. We must try to show that love to others. We must not walk past those in need and make excuses that we are too tired or busy to help.

Jesus was the perfect example of the Good Samaritan. He cared for so many people during his life on the earth. Jesus was never too busy or tired to help anyone who came to him in need. We are like the wounded man. We are wounded sinners on the road leading down to death. Jesus comes to us and cares for us. He offers to forgive our sins and bring us to God's Kingdom.

Jesus told the story of two men who each built a house. The first man built carefully on a rock foundation. He worked hard, digging deep, to build on the rock foundation. His house stood firm against floods and storms. The second man built his house very quickly and easily. He built it on the sand. But when the storms came his house fell down.

Jesus told the people, "If you obey my teaching, you will be like the first man." Jesus meant that life can be hard and stormy, but if we follow him there is a solid purpose in life. At the end there will be the Kingdom of God. The man who does not follow Jesus will not have any hope. At the end there will only be death.

Let us build our lives on the teaching and example of Jesus. The teaching of Jesus is very important and tells us how to please God. We must put God first, others second and ourselves last. Our greatest desire will be to have a place in God's Kingdom. We will also benefit in this life, because we know that God will care for us. Jesus told us that God knows when the sparrows fall to the ground. How much more will He care for us, His children. We need not worry about the future, because God will look after us. He will help us through our troubles and temptations and bring us to His Kingdom.