

JULY 5, 2020  
THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT

## GAME TIME

### NIGHT WATCH

Dim the lights in the room. Select one person to be It and provide them with a flashlight. They will stand at one end of the room, facing away from the other kids. While their back is turned, the other players may sneak forward to reach them. If they turn on their flashlight and point it at the kids, they must freeze in place like statues. If a kid moves while the flashlight is shining, they must return to the start. The first kid to reach It wins and takes their place.

**SAY:** *That was a fun game. Today we will hear about a time Jesus spoke about light. He said that people who follow Him are the light of the world. What do you think that means?*

## BIBLE STORY

### Matthew 5-7

Great crowds of people followed Jesus wherever He went. One day, Jesus went up on a mountain. He sat down and began to teach about the kingdom of God.

First, Jesus taught about the blessings that come to those who follow Him. He said: "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for the kingdom of heaven is theirs. Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. Blessed are the humble, for they will inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness, for the kingdom of heaven is theirs."

Then Jesus taught how believers should live. Jesus said that believers are the light of the world. "Let your light shine before others so that they may see the good things you do and choose to praise God."

Then Jesus taught about God's law. Jesus did not come to get rid of the law, but to obey it perfectly. He said that to enter heaven, a person can't just look righteous on the outside—like the religious leaders. A person must be righteous on the inside too, obeying God for the right reasons. Jesus said, "Love your enemies, and pray for them." He said, "When you give to people who are poor, give in secret. And when you pray, don't pray just so that people will hear you." Jesus taught the people how to pray.

He also said, "Forgive others. If you forgive those who sin against you, God will forgive you too. But if you don't forgive them, God will not forgive you."

Jesus said, "Do not collect treasures on earth, which can be destroyed or stolen. Collect treasures in heaven instead. For where your treasure is, that is where your heart will be also." He taught that God provides for His people. Jesus taught the people many things. When He finished teaching, the crowds were amazed because He taught them like one who had authority.

**CHRIST CONNECTION:** Jesus taught people what it means to follow Him. He taught how people should live, how they should treat one another, and how to love God. People who trust in Jesus live to honor God and show what His kingdom is like.

### THE WIDE AND NARROW GOALS

Use traffic cones to make two goals: one very wide, the other very narrow. Using a ball, invite players to take turns kicking the ball toward one of the goals. Award 1,000 points to anyone who kicks the ball through the narrow goal. Award half a point for each kick that rolls through the wide goal. After a few minutes, announce that now kicking it through the wide goal will result in a loss of points.

**SAY:** *What did Jesus teach when He was on earth? Jesus taught about God and His kingdom. During His Sermon, Jesus spoke about two gates, one wide and one narrow. Jesus said the wide gate leads to destruction, and the narrow gate to life. [See Matt. 7:13-14.] Jesus was talking about two ways to live.*

