

# Jesus, Lord of My Life

## TEACHER

UNIT

1

LESSON  
FOUR

### From Our Hearts to God

*Lord, teach me your ways. Guide me to be a true reflection of your love so that I will be happy and proud of myself. Amen.*

## MY WORLD

List five things that make you happy:

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We think that being rich or having a lot of things or being a “star” will make us happy. Most of us will never be rich or have *everything* we ever dreamed of having. And very few of us become famous athletes or music stars or movie stars.

God *does* want us to be happy. Jesus taught us how to be truly happy. He was and is a great teacher. Many times he spoke directly to people as a teacher. They called him *Rabbi* which means teacher.





## Taking a Closer Look

Jesus spent as much time as he could teaching the people. He wanted them to know God and to love him. He often taught with stories. These were called "parables" and were simple stories about everyday life. And yet they always ended with important questions for us to think about. For example, Jesus taught a famous parable about mercy that we now call "The Parable of the Good Samaritan." It can be found in Luke 10: 25-37. Read the story and decide: what was the question we each have to answer? Write it here:

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## Getting Closer to God

God gave the Israelites rules to live by called the Ten Commandments. One day Jesus was asked, "Which commandment is the most important of all?"

Jesus answered, "To love God with all your heart, soul, mind and strength. And the second is to love your neighbor as you love yourself." (Mark 12:28-31)

Jesus did not give a bunch of DON'Ts. He gave us two big DOs. The Ten Commandments are important and we should follow them. What Jesus said summarized them into two statements.

The first is how we should feel about \_\_\_\_\_.

The second is how we should feel about \_\_\_\_\_.

Who does Jesus say is our neighbor? Circle the people you would consider your "neighbors."



## GODS GUIDING WORDS

### The Beatitudes (*Matthew 5:3-10*)



One special time Jesus taught has come to be called the Sermon on the Mount. People had gathered to hear him speak. One of the things he told them about is called The Beatitudes, a set of principles that teach us what we need to be happy: love, peace, justice, mercy, and generosity.

Jesus wants us to depend on him and said that when we live in his way, we are truly

happy. We are already with God in our hearts and already sharing in his Kingdom! This is the first lesson.

***“God blesses those people who depend only on him.  
They belong to the kingdom of heaven.”***

You know that many people in your school, in this country, in this world do not live according to God’s plan and there is meanness and hurtfulness. There is war, hunger, poverty and many other awful things. It makes you sad that these sinful things happen. Jesus said if you are saddened by sin, evil, and suffering in the world or if you are sad to have lost someone you love, you can depend on God to comfort you. God will give you ways to help and feel better. This is the second lesson.

***“God blesses those people who grieve. They will find comfort!”***

Children who only think of themselves don’t have time to think of others. They don’t want to think of others. But all God’s children, including you, should think of others as your sisters and brothers and care for them. A person who puts the needs of others first is called *HUMBLE*. Humble people show gentleness and patience towards others. Another word for this kind of person is *MEEK*. Jesus said God loves this kind of person and will reward them. This is the third lesson.

***“God blesses those people who are humble.  
The earth will belong to them.”***

“That’s not fair!” is a phrase you have probably used when you think someone has been unjust towards you. It is a phrase God wants everyone to use if people are not being treated fairly. God wants you to stand up for your rights and the rights of others. When you get justice for yourself and others you will be happy. God wants

things to be right. When you work for righteousness for all you are doing God's will. This is the fourth lesson.

***“God blesses those people who want to help him make the world right even more than they want to eat or drink. They will be given what they want.”***

God wants you to be concerned about the feelings of others and show them the same loving kindness that you want for yourself. Jesus taught us this fifth lesson.

***“God blesses those people who are merciful. They will be treated with mercy.”***

Jesus said that what you say and do should always be what is right with God. This is called being pure in heart. When you are pure in heart you see God guiding you. This is lesson six.

***“God blesses those people whose hearts are pure. They will see him!”***

God knows you can only be happy when you are at peace with yourself and others. Jesus was a peacemaker and he wants you to be peacemaker like him. This is the seventh lesson.

***“God blesses those who make peace. They will be called his children.”***

Sometimes doing the right thing is very hard. You may lose a friend or an opportunity because you did what is right and good. You may feel hurt because others laugh at you when you do what you know is God's will. Jesus said to come to him in his kingdom and all things will be better there and you will be happy. This is lesson eight.

***“God blesses those people who are treated badly for doing right. They belong to the kingdom of heaven.”***





## Our Armenian Way

### A MIRACLE IN ARMENIA

Up until very recently, Armenians who came from the same town or village considered themselves part of the same family. If they came from the town of Marash, they were all “Marash-tzees.” People from Palu were all Palu-tzees. The “tzee” ending in Armenian is just like some of the ways we refer in English to people from the same place. Someone from New York is a New York-er. Someone from Wisconsin is a Wisconsin-ite.

But for Armenians, coming from the same town made for a strong bond. *Everyone* from that town was a true neighbor and friend. This was a great example of taking Jesus’ command seriously by caring for *all* the people who occupy your world.



## RESPONDING IN FAITH

One of the best things Jesus taught us is how to pray. He taught us what we call the Lord’s Prayer (Matthew 6:9-14).

Here is a simple way to think about what the prayer says:

Father of all of us, you who are in heaven,  
you are more special than anyone.

I pray I always follow your ways.

Give me what I need today to live the kind of life that pleases you.

Forgive my wrongs as I forgive the wrongs done to me by others.

Lead me away from sinful thoughts, words, and actions.

Rescue me from evil things.

I pray this for myself and for everyone for I want your blessings  
for me and for all.



# Time to Celebrate

Share with the class a teaching of Jesus, using your DO/DON'T masks.



## FAMILY CORNER

### Sharing Our Faith

Today's lesson was about Jesus as our greatest teacher. We explored some of the many beautiful lessons Jesus taught the people of his time and all time, such as the Beatitudes, the parable of the Good Samaritan, and the Two Great Commandments. Jesus taught us about how to live a happy life. We learned that Jesus taught us how to pray and gave us the Lord's Prayer to say.

### Living Our Faith

Many of Jesus' lessons were in the form of stories called parables. Read some of the Parables of Jesus this week as a family. Each night this week read one of Jesus' parable stories listed below and talk about what he is teaching. How do we incorporate these lessons into our daily life?

## Parables of Jesus Christ

This is a list of some of the parables of Jesus Christ. A parable is an earthly story with a spiritual truth.

Parable	Matthew	Mark	Luke
Budding fig tree	24:32-35	13:28-32	21:29-33
Great physician	9:10-13	2:15-17	5:29-32
Hidden treasure	13:44		
Humbled guest			14:7-11
Laborers in vineyard	20:1-16		
Lost coin			15:8-10
Rich fool			12:16-21
Salt without taste	5:13	9:50	14:34-35
Sheep and goats	25:31-46		
Ten talents	25:14-30		
Unmerciful servant	18:21-35		