

Lesson 13

The Beatitudes

Sunday, November 1, 2026 • Matthew 5:1-12

ALL SAINTS' DAY



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Sunday School · November 2026

Lessons 13 to 17 · All Saints, the end of the year, and Advent I

Lesson 13 · Sunday, November 1, 2026 ★ major production

ALL SAINTS' DAY · 1st Sunday of the month: Linguistic + Visual-spatial

Base text: Matthew 5:1-12 — The Beatitudes

The Sunday text — Matthew 5:1-12 (KJV, language updated)

1 And seeing the multitudes, he went up into a mountain: and when he was seated, his disciples came to him: **2** And he opened his mouth, and taught them, saying, **3** Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. **4** Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted. **5** Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth. **6** Blessed are they who do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled. **7** Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy. **8** Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God. **9** Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God. **10** Blessed are they who are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. **11** Blessed are you, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake. **12** Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets who were before you.

To read together when preparing the class. The children hear it read in the service.

Goals (by the end, the child will be able to):

- say at least three Beatitudes with their promise;
- say that a saint is not the one who did the most good things, but the one who believes in Jesus and has been washed in his blood;
- say from the Creed “the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints”;
- name aloud a Christian in his family who has already died, and say why the Church is still one.

red = READ AS IT IS **green = say it in your own words**

Before class — materials

- ► This week's video (1 min): youtu.be/Yb0W7q0PUJ4 · All the videos (one more each week): youtube.com/playlist?list=PLOnRjLd36p6U
- ★ MAJOR PRODUCTION: the garland is hung in the room and stays up all month.
- A long string for the garland and tape or clothespins.
- The seven Beatitudes written on strips (beginning and promise separately).
- Copies of the sheets; card stock for the pennants on sheet 4.
- The leader finds out beforehand the names of members of the congregation who died this year.
- Each child's folder.

Time (22 min)

Part	Time
1 · Bible story	4 min
2 · Catechism	4 min
3 · Activity (linguistic + visual-spatial)	8 min
4 · Closing creative activity	6 min
TOTAL	22 min

1 · Bible story (4 min)

Visual aid: the video of the week (youtu.be/Yb0W7q0PUJ4) or sheet 1 enlarged: Jesus on the mountain, the people seated, and the cloud of saints.

IN YOUR OWN WORDS (let this text guide you):

“When Jesus saw the crowd, he went up the mountain and sat down. His disciples came to him, and he began to teach them. And the first thing he said was a list of happy people, but not the ones you would expect.

‘Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted. Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth.’

‘Blessed are they who do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled. Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God. Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God.’

‘Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven.’”

Who are these blessed ones? Not the ones who behave best, but the ones who have nothing to give God and receive everything from Jesus, like a beggar. That is what saints are: not superior people who did more good things, but those who believe in Jesus and have been washed in his blood.

2 · Catechism (4 min)

READ AS IT IS — the Catechism, Third Article of the Creed:

“I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen. [...] even as He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian Church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith.”

Questions for the class (there is no conclusion: the class draws it):

1. **Grammar** — all together, starting with the youngest, repeat three times: “Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God” and “the communion of saints.”
2. **Logic** — “Whom does Jesus call blessed? And what does he promise to those who mourn and to the pure in heart?” *The answer we look for (the text’s own):* “the poor in spirit... they that mourn... the meek...”; “they shall be comforted” and “they shall see God” (Matthew 5:3-8).
3. **Logic** — “In the Creed we confess ‘the communion of saints.’ According to the Catechism, whom does the Holy Spirit call, gather, and enlighten?” *The answer we look for (the Catechism’s):* “the whole Christian Church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith.”
4. **Rhetoric** — the older children read aloud the names written on the pennants, and each one says: Jesus washed him in his blood — and which promise of the Beatitudes already belongs to that person.

Doctrinal foundation

“That this treasure, therefore, might not lie buried, but be appropriated and enjoyed, God has caused the Word to go forth and be proclaimed, in which He gives the Holy Spirit to bring this treasure home and appropriate it to us.”

— Large Catechism, on the Third Article.

3 · Activity (8 min)

Intelligences: Linguistic + Visual-spatial

Name: “The cloud of witnesses”

1. THE STRIPS. On the floor, mixed up, the seven Beatitudes split in two. The children pair them up: beginning with promise. The older ones read; the little ones carry the strips.
2. THE PENNANT. Each child cuts out his pennant (sheet 4) and writes the name of a Christian in his family or in the congregation who has already died. The little ones dictate it and an older child writes it.
3. THE GARLAND. All the pennants are hung on the string, from one side of the room to the other.
4. READ THE NAMES. In silence, the leader reads all the names aloud one by one. At the end, everyone says together: “the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints.”

With all ages together: the little ones cut out and hang; the middle ones write; the older ones pair up the strips and read.

4 · Closing creative activity (6 min)

Age	What the child does (tool)
Ages 2-4	Sheet 2 (to color): color the mountain and the people.
Ages 5-8	Sheet 2 (to color): color and copy “Blessed are the pure in heart.”
Ages 9-12	Sheet 3: match each Beatitude with its promise.

Everyone also receives Sheet 1 in color, which goes in the folder. Craft for this lesson: sheet 4, the pennant for the garland — it does not go in the folder: it stays hanging in the room all month.



The Beatitudes

All Saints' Day (Matthew 5:1-12)

"Blessed are
the poor in spirit..."



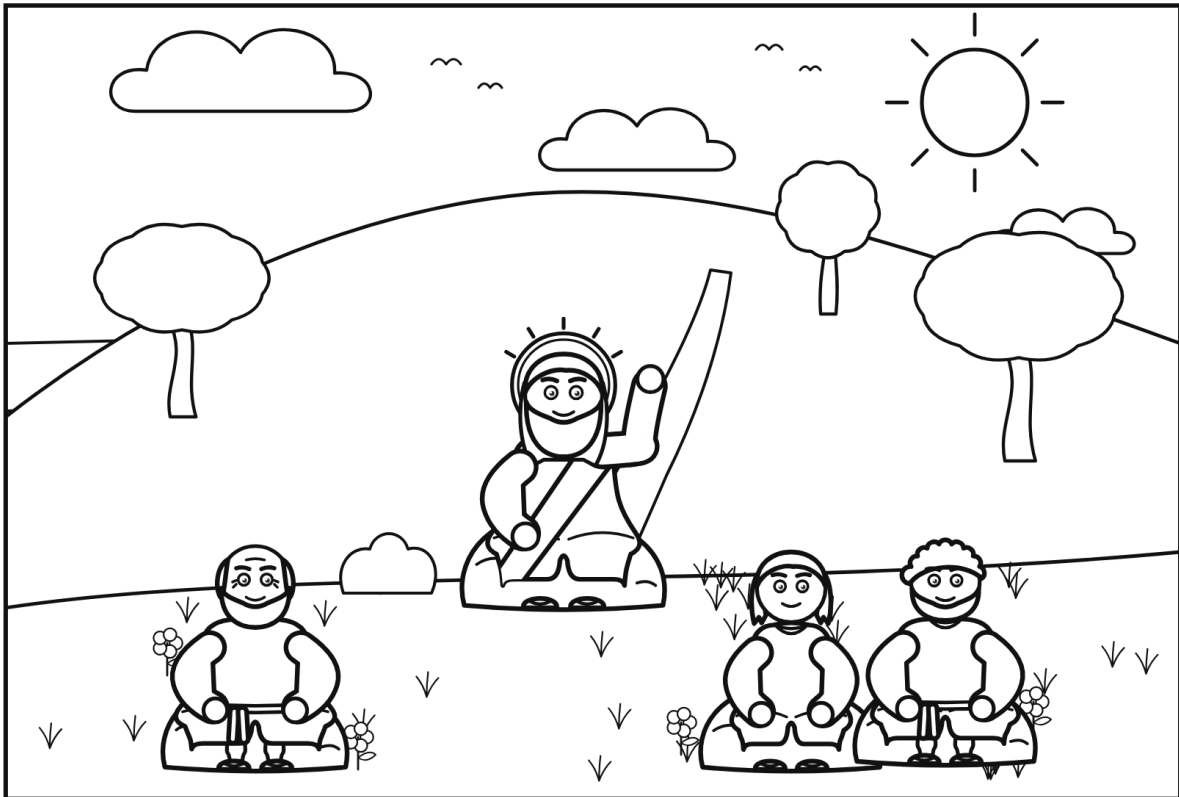
"Rejoice, and be exceeding
glad: for great is your reward
in heaven." (Matthew 5:12)



The
Church is
one family!

The Beatitudes

Color the picture. In the bubble, copy: "Blessed are the pure in heart."



"Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God." — Matthew 5:8

My name: _____

Match the Beatitudes

Each beginning has its promise. Join them with a line (Matthew 5:3-9).

Blessed are...

...for they

the poor in spirit...



...shall be comforted.

they that mourn...



...shall see God.

the meek...



...shall inherit the earth.

*they who do hunger
and thirst after righteousness...*



*...theirs is the kingdom
of heaven.*

the merciful...



*...shall be called
the children of God.*

the pure in heart...



...shall be filled.

the peacemakers...



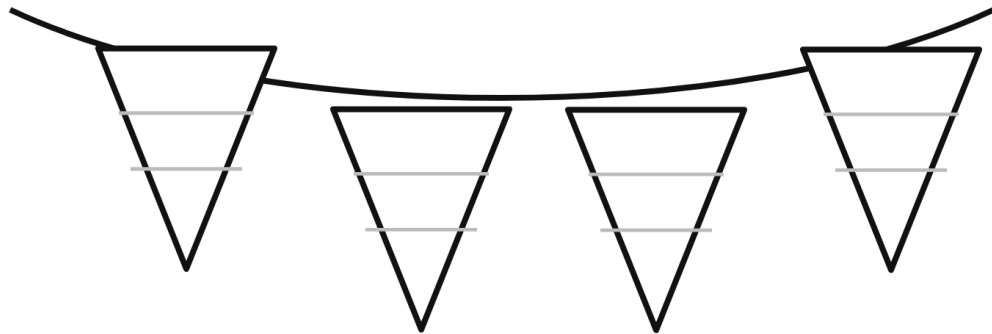
*...shall obtain
mercy.*

To talk about: which of these promises have the saints who died in Christ already received?

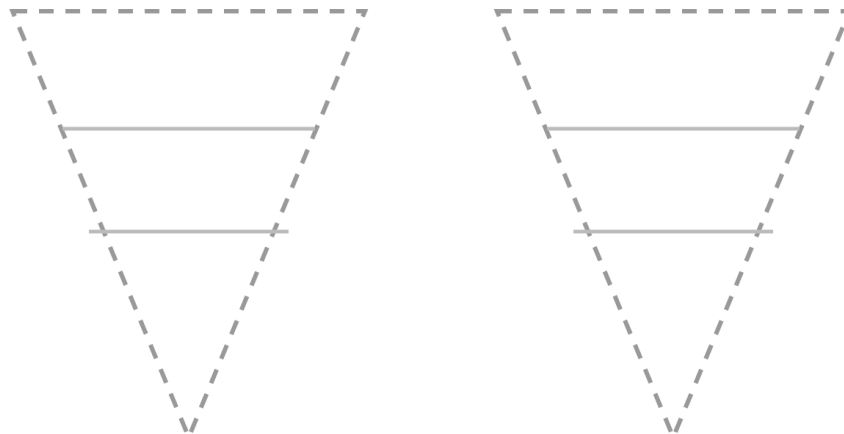
My name: _____

The cloud of witnesses

Each child writes on a pennant the name of a Christian in his family who has already died.



Cut out your pennants, write the name, and hang them from the string in the room.



“...the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints...” — Creed

The garland stays up in the room all month: the Church in heaven and the Church on earth are one.

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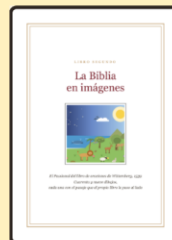
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