

Grade 4 - Chapter 7

Discover

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Discover

Catechist Tips: Talk About Blessings

Some children may be experiencing difficult situations at home and find it hard to feel blessed.

- Ask volunteers to give examples of times when something good came from a bad situation.
- To ensure privacy, ask the children to give examples from TV programs or movies.

Catechist Tips: Work in Groups

Some children may need a little help in working with a partner.

- Instead, have the children count off to form larger groups.
- Choose a leader and a reporter for each group.
- Set definite time limits. For discussion groups, five minutes is probably sufficient.
- Ask for a report from each group.

Catechist Tips: Being a Blessing

Fourth-graders may have difficulty understanding that a person can be a blessing.

- A blessing is something that can draw us closer to God.
- Point out that anything that God makes can be a blessing.
- Invite the children to name things that can be blessings and explain why they are blessings.

Catechist Tips: Beatitudes

Two Gospels contain the Beatitudes.

- In the Gospel according to Matthew, Jesus teaches on a mountainside. In the Gospel according to

- Luke, he teaches on a plain.
- In Matthew, Jesus is portrayed as the new Moses. In Luke, the focus is on Jesus' care of the poor.

Glossary Activity: Beatitudes

The Beatitudes contain some words that fourth graders may not recognize.

- Explain that *mourn* means "to be sad"; *meek* means "humble or peaceful"; and *righteousness* means "fairness or justice."
- You may also need to explain that people who are "clean of heart" respect and love God.
- Ask the children whether they need you to explain any other words.

Additional Activity: Picture It

Organize the children in small groups for a game that expands on the Connect Your Faith activity.

- Assign each group a Beatitude, and have group members draw a scene that shows someone living that Beatitude.
- Have groups take turns identifying the various Beatitudes that have been illustrated.

Additional Activity: Intercessory Prayer

The children can learn about intercessory prayers at Mass and write their own.

- Invite a person responsible for the Prayer of the Faithful to talk about it.
- Have the children write prayers for the Church, the parish staff, and others in prayer.

Additional Activity: Manuscript

The children may wish to elaborate on the prayers of intercessions written for this lesson.

- Display a reproduction of an illuminated manuscript from your parish or local library.
- Encourage the children to copy their prayers in the style of the manuscript.

Additional Activity: Create a Blessing Prayer

The children may be familiar with the word *bless* from mealtime blessings.

- Ask the children to share their mealtime blessings.
- Ask which lines they like.
- Encourage the children to work together on a prayer of blessing for meals.

Additional Activity: Blessed Charades Game

Supplies:

- index cards with one of the Beatitudes on each card
- pencil or pen
- digital watch or stopwatch

Remind the children that they have been talking about the people Jesus described in the Beatitudes.

Tell them that in this game they will get to act out specific acts that these people would do. Organize the children into two teams and give each team a card with one of the Beatitudes on it. Each team

will take turns and have three minutes to make up a skit showing someone demonstrating the Beatitude, while the other teams try to guess the correct Beatitude. Choose one team to begin. Continue until they have acted out all of the Beatitudes.

Parish Video Connection: Being Catholic

Complete the Catechist Edition instruction on page 123. Then show the children this video. Afterward, tell the children to look at the chart on page 123. For each of the Beatitudes, invite a volunteer to share one example of how we can live it out.

YouTube Link: <https://youtu.be/sPupWb5tpMg>