



# FAITH AT HOME - NOVEMBER 2020

## ALL SAINTS AND THE BEATITUDES - GODLY PLAY

Each week, watch the video with your child, and any added instructions or ideas on the website. Use the Faith at Home kit supplies and instructions (and your child's own creativity) to make the story at home, building it week by week. Talk together about the wondering questions. Encourage play with the story pieces. Find a special container for your Beatitudes Story, and set aside time for Godly Play together!

FIND THE VIDEOS FOR EACH WEEK ON OUR WEBSITE:

[HTTPS://GROWINGFAITHATHOME.ORG/FAITH-AT-HOME/](https://growingfaithathome.org/faith-at-home/)

### **Supplies Needed:**

You can find these materials in your Faith at Home kit, or around the house or yard.

### **In your kit:**

- **All Saints coloring sheet and bulletin**
- **green felt underlay**
- **Beatitudes laminated sheet. These pieces will be cut out and used as noted in each session.**
- **Beatitudes cards to cut out**

### **Find at home for 11/8 and following:**

- **Something to be a small mountain for Jesus to stand on (like a block)**
- **Something from creation**



## WEEK OF NOVEMBER 1 - ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

Find the videos for each week on our Website:  
<https://growingfaithathome.org/faith-at-home/>

*Before you begin:*

- *Find your All Saints coloring sheet inside this kit, and the bulletin for fun!*
- *With your child, watch the November 1 video in worship or on our website.*

Talk with your child about a person, no longer living, who has been a model for you in your faith. They could be a person from the Bible, a modern-day saint you may or may not have known personally, or someone who has personally been important in your life.

Talk with your child:

- Who has taught you about Jesus? Share your own stories.
- What stories do you know of people who lived and died long ago? What about people you are close to who have died? Share some stories.
- How does it feel to think about those people today?

Today is All Saints' Day. Explain how it is a time when the church remembers people who have been an example of faith and who have died. We are thankful for all the saints in our lives, and all the followers of Christ who have come before us in life and death. This day is about remembering, celebrating, and honoring them.

Look together at the All Saints Coloring Sheet, for ways we remember and celebrate these special people: candles, flowers, photos, and sometimes incense. In the frame you can draw or tape a picture of a saint or loved one. Remind your child that nothing, not even death, can separate us from God's love. Tell them our remembrance of saints and loved ones is a way they continue to live on. Sometimes the church refers to these people as the "great cloud of witnesses," who are with us and support us as we seek to follow Jesus' ways. Wonder about who they might know in the "great cloud of witnesses."

**Pray: Dear God, thank you for giving us to each other. Help us remember and celebrate all who have come before us. We are one family, always. Amen.**



## WEEK OF NOVEMBER 8 - THE BEATITUDES PART 1

Find the videos for each week on our Website:  
<https://growingfaithathome.org/faith-at-home/>

*Before you begin:*

- Find your people of God figures from the last Faith at Home kit
  - One will be Jesus
  - Others will be disciples
- Find something to be a small mountain - like a block
- Find something from creation - like a leaf, flower, or rock
- Cut out these pieces:
  - The tree branch, the nest, the birds
  - The good shepherd figure
  - The first three Beatitude cards.

*With your child, watch the video on our website, then follow along with the story like this:*

**(Spread out your green felt underlay. Add Jesus and some disciples.)**

Jesus traveled around Galilee with his friends, teaching and healing and proclaiming the Good News of the Kingdom of God. Many people followed him.

One day, Jesus went up on a mountain to tell his friends more about God's kingdom.  
**(Place Jesus on a "mountain" a little above the disciple figures.)**

He sat down and gave what some people call the greatest sermon ever preached. Today we call it the Sermon on the Mount. It started like this:

"God's kingdom is going to be filled with all kinds of people who will be blessed."

Then Jesus told his friends who those people would be, and they weren't who you might think. Usually we think someone is blessed or happy when things are going well, when they have lots of good things. **(Hold up both hands like they are full.)**

But Jesus told us how in God's kingdom, sometimes things get turned upside down, to show us a better way. **(Turn both hands upside down.)**

Here's what Jesus said about who will be blessed, and happy and honored in God's kingdom, and the promises God has for them. We call this part of the sermon "The Beatitudes".

"Blessed are the poor in spirit...."

**(Put down the first card.)**

Like people who are poor because they have no money, or no hope.

**(Demonstrate with your hands cupped, like holding a bowl.)**

"...for theirs is the Kingdom of heaven."

Like the home the birds found in the tree that grew up from the mustard seed.

**(Put down the tree, the nest and the birds.)**

"Blessed are those who mourn....."

**(Put down the second card.)**

Like people who are very sad.

**(Cover your eyes with your hands.)**

"...for they will be comforted."

Like the sheep when the good shepherd led them through places of darkness and brought them safely home.

**(Put down the good shepherd figure.)**

"Blessed are the meek..."

**(Put down the third card.)**

Like people who are gentle and kind, and humble.

**(Hold your hands in prayer.)**

"...for they will inherit the earth."

Like the people of God who live on the land, and give thanks for the gifts of creation.

**(Lay down something you found from creation.)**

Wondering questions:

- I wonder what it's like to be blessed by God?
- I wonder if you know anyone who is poor in spirit? Or who mourns? Or is meek?
- I wonder what the Kingdom of God is really like?
- I wonder where you are in this story? Or where you would like to be?
- I wonder how you can bless someone else and show them the Kingdom of God?



## WEEK OF NOVEMBER 15 - THE BEATITUDES PART 2

Find the videos for each week on our Website:

<https://growingfaithathome.org/faith-at-home/>

*Before you begin:*

- *Find all your pieces from last week, then add to them.*
- *Cut out these pieces:*
  - *The table, bread plate and chalice.*
  - *The father and prodigal son hugging*
  - *The Good Samaritan helping the hurt man*
  - *The Beatitude cards 4, 5 and 6.*

*With your child, watch the video on our website, then follow along with the story like this:*

**(Spread out your green felt underlay. Add Jesus and some disciples.)**

Jesus traveled around Galilee with his friends, teaching and healing and proclaiming the Good News of the Kingdom of God. Many people followed him. One day, Jesus went up on a mountain to tell his friends more about God's kingdom.

**(Place Jesus on a "mountain" a little above the disciple figures.)**

He sat down and gave what some people call the greatest sermon ever preached.

Today we call it the Sermon on the Mount. It started like this: "God's kingdom is going to be filled with all kinds of people who will be blessed." Then Jesus told his friends who those people would be, and they weren't who you might think. Usually we think someone is blessed or happy when things are going well, when they have lots of good things. **(Hold up both hands like they are full.)**

But Jesus told us how in God's kingdom, sometimes things get turned upside down, to show us a better way. **(Turn both hands upside down.)** Here's what Jesus said about who will be blessed, and happy and honored in God's kingdom, and the promises God has for them. We call this part of the sermon "The Beatitudes".

**(Retell Part 1:)**

“Blessed are the poor in spirit....”

**(Put down the first card.)**

Like people who are poor because they have no money, or no hope.

**(Demonstrate with your hands cupped, like holding a bowl.)**

“...for theirs is the Kingdom of heaven.”

Like the home the birds found in the tree that grew up from the mustard seed.

**(Put down the tree, the nest and the birds.)**

“Blessed are those who mourn.....”

**(Put down the second card.)**

Like people who are very sad.

**(Cover your eyes with your hands.)**

“...for they will be comforted.”

Like the sheep when the good shepherd led them through places of darkness and brought them safely home.

**(Put down the good shepherd figure.)**

“Blessed are the meek...”

**(Put down the third card.)**

Like people who are gentle and kind, and humble.

**(Hold your hands in prayer.)**

“...for they will inherit the earth.”

Like the people of God who live on the land, and give thanks for the gifts of creation.

**(Lay down something you found from creation.)**

**(Now add Part 2:)**

“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness...”

**(Put down the fourth card.)**

Like prophets who point to injustice, and what isn't fair.

**(Point, then roll your hand like waves.)**

“...for they will be filled.”

Like people who come to feast at a great banquet.

**(Put down the table, the plate and the chalice.)**

“Blessed are the merciful...”

**(Put down the fifth card.)**

Like people who forgive others.

**(Open your arms wide.)**

“...for they will receive mercy.”

Like the prodigal son welcomed home by his father.

**(Put down the father and son embracing.)**

“Blessed are the pure in heart...”

**(Put down the sixth card.)**

Like people whose hearts are full of love.

**(Put your hands over your heart.)**

“...for they will see God.”

Like the man who was shown love by the Good Samaritan.

**(Put down the Good Samaritan helping the hurt man.)**

Wondering questions:

- I wonder what it's like to be blessed by God?
- I wonder if you know anyone who hungers and thirsts for righteousness? Or who is merciful? Or is pure in heart?
- I wonder where you have seen God?
- I wonder where you are in this story? Or where you would like to be?
- I wonder how you can bless someone else and show God's mercy?



## WEEK OF NOVEMBER 22 - THE BEATITUDES PART 3

Find the videos for each week on our Website:

<https://growingfaithathome.org/faith-at-home/>

*Before you begin:*

- *Find all your pieces from the past 2 weeks, then add to them.*
- *Cut out these pieces:*
  - *Jesus and the children*
  - *The Great Pearl*
  - *The treasure bags*
  - *The Beatitude cards 7, 8 ,9 and 10*

*With your child, watch the video on our website, then follow along with the story like this:*

**(Spread out your green felt underlay. Add Jesus and some disciples.)**

Jesus traveled around Galilee with his friends, teaching and healing and proclaiming the Good News of the Kingdom of God. Many people followed him. One day, Jesus went up on a mountain to tell his friends more about God's kingdom.

**(Place Jesus on a "mountain" a little above the disciple figures.)**

He sat down and gave what some people call the greatest sermon ever preached. Today we call it the Sermon on the Mount. It started like this: "God's kingdom is going to be filled with all kinds of people who will be blessed." Then Jesus told his friends who those people would be, and they weren't who you might think. Usually we think someone is blessed or happy when things are going well, when they have lots of good things. **(Hold up both hands like they are full.)**

But Jesus told us how in God's kingdom, sometimes things get turned upside down, to show us a better way. **(Turn both hands upside down.)** Here's what Jesus said about who will be blessed, and happy and honored in God's kingdom, and the promises God has for them. We call this part of the sermon "The Beatitudes".



**(Retell Parts 1 and 2:)**

“Blessed are the poor in spirit....”

**(Put down the first card.)**

Like people who are poor because they have no money, or no hope.

**(Demonstrate with your hands cupped, like holding a bowl.)**

“...for theirs is the Kingdom of heaven.”

Like the home the birds found in the tree that grew up from the mustard seed.

**(Put down the tree, the nest and the birds.)**

“Blessed are those who mourn.....”

**(Put down the second card.)**

Like people who are very sad.

**(Cover your eyes with your hands.)**

“...for they will be comforted.”

Like the sheep when the good shepherd led them through places of darkness and brought them safely home.

**(Put down the good shepherd figure.)**

“Blessed are the meek...”

**(Put down the third card.)**

Like people who are gentle and kind, and humble.

**(Hold your hands in prayer.)**

“...for they will inherit the earth.”

Like the people of God who live on the land, and give thanks for the gifts of creation.

**(Lay down something you found from creation.)**

“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness...”

**(Put down the fourth card.)**

Like prophets who point to injustice, and what isn't fair.

**(Point, then roll your hand like waves.)**

“...for they will be filled.”

Like people who come to feast at a great banquet.

**(Put down the table, the plate and the chalice.)**

Like the people of God who live on the land, and give thanks for all the gifts of creation.

**(Lay down something you found from creation.)**

“Blessed are the merciful...”

**(Put down the fifth card.)**

Like people who forgive others.

**(Open your arms wide.)**

“...for they will receive mercy.”

Like the prodigal son welcomed home by his father.

**(Put down the father and son embracing.)**

“Blessed are the pure in heart...”

**(Put down the sixth card.)**

Like people whose hearts are full of love.

**(Put your hands over your heart.)**

“...for they will see God.”

Like the man who was shown love by the Good Samaritan.

**(Put down the Good Samaritan helping the hurt man.)**

**(Now add Part 3:)**

“Blessed are the peacemakers...”

**(Put down the seventh card.)**

Like people who work for peace and wholeness - God’s shalom.

**(Make a peace sign with your hand.)**

“...for they will be called children of God.”

Like the children Jesus blessed.

**(Put down the picture of Jesus and the children.)**

“Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness sake...”

**(Put down the eighth card.)**

Like people who get in trouble or are hurt for standing up for what is right.

**(Cross your hands over your forehead.)**

“...for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.”

Like the merchant who exchanged everything he had for the one great pearl.

**(Put down the picture of the pearl.)**

“Blessed are you when people revile you, persecute you, and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account.”

**(Put down the ninth card.)**

Like when people make fun of you for following Jesus, or doing what’s right.

**(Put your head in your hands.)**

“Rejoice and be glad for your reward is great in heaven....”

**(Put down the tenth card.)**

Like when a farmer finds treasure hidden in a field.

**(Put down the treasure bags.)**

I can imagine Jesus saying to his friends, and to us:

**(Bring Jesus down from the mountain to stand with the disciples.)**

“My friends, you are blessed. Be joyful. Work for peace and justice. And honor others, bless them, for you and they are welcome in God’s kingdom.”

Wondering questions:

- I wonder what it’s like to be blessed by God?
- I wonder if you know anyone who is a peacemaker? Or who is persecuted for following Jesus or for standing up for what is right?
- I wonder what is the hardest part about following Jesus?
- I wonder what is the best part about following Jesus?
- I wonder where you are in this story? Or where you would like to be?
- I wonder how you can bless someone else and show God’s mercy?

MORE FAITH AT HOME IS COMING FOR ADVENT! STAY TUNED.....