

2.13 JESUS TEACHES ON THE MOUNTAIN

MATTHEW 5 - 7

Jesus liked talking to people and teaching them anywhere they would gather to listen. Sometimes He would stand in a boat. Sometimes He would speak to lots of people inside someone's house. One day, He chose to teach on a mountainside. There was a lot of space for a lot of people. He had important things to talk to them about.

First, Jesus taught them how God wanted them to be happy. Here are some things He said. "God blesses (makes happy) those who are poor and realize they need Him. God blesses and comforts those who are sad. God blesses and is kind to those who are kind to others. God blesses and gives joy to those who try to keep peace and don't fight."

Jesus also gave them an example of how to pray. He said, "Pray like this." "Our Father in Heaven, show us Who You are. Do what's best here on earth, as You do what's best in Heaven. Keep us alive with meals every day. Show us how to forgive others like You forgive us. Keep us safe from the devil. You are in charge of our lives! You can do anything."

Jesus also told them some difficult things to do. He said to love our enemies! That's very hard to do. He said to do good to those who hate you. He said to pray and seek for good things to happen to those who are mean to us. What hard lessons to learn from Jesus! But He said if we do this we will be like God, our Heavenly Father.

Jesus also taught them what to do if they had worries in their life. Do you ever have something you are worried about? Jesus had an answer for that, too. Jesus had several examples of how God takes care of His creation, including people like us.

- Jesus said, "Look at the birds in the air. They don't plant seeds or gather crops, but they always have food to eat." Isn't that amazing! God always shows them where to find food. Jesus said we are much more important than the birds.
- Then, Jesus told about the flowers. He said, "Are you ever worried about clothing? Look at the flowers in the field! They don't have to look for something to wear. God supplies just what they need for each day to look their best.
- Jesus said that the most important thing to look for everyday is ways we can make God happy. If we do that, we won't have to worry about the things in our daily life. God will always take care of us.
- "Do not worry about what might happen tomorrow," said Jesus to the people. "God will help you when problems come your way."

Jesus had many more lessons that day. The people were amazed at how wonderful His teaching was. It was difficult to learn things from the religious leaders. But it was very easy to learn things from Jesus. The people knew that what Jesus said was the truth.

2.13 JESUS TEACHES ON THE MOUNTAIN - TEACHER'S GUIDE

MATTHEW 5 - 7

HIGHLIGHTS:

- 1) Jesus was teaching a lot of people on the mountain. He had a lot of things to talk about. The first thing He taught was how God wants to bless them—how God wants them to be happy. Jesus said God blesses those who are poor and who realize they need Him; God blesses those who are sad; God blesses those who are kind; God blesses those who are peaceful.
- 2) Jesus also showed the people how to pray. We should ask God for His best here on earth and trust Him to give us what we need.
- 3) Jesus taught them difficult lessons, too. We should love our enemies. We should look for good things to happen to those who are mean to us.
- 4) Jesus told them not to worry. God is taking care of their needs. God takes care of the birds and gives them the food they need. God takes care of the flowers and how they look. We are even more important than these.
- 5) The people were amazed at what Jesus taught them. They liked to listen to Jesus because they knew He told the truth.

QUESTIONS:

- 1) What was the first thing Jesus taught about as He spoke to them on the mountain?
- 2) How did Jesus say we should pray?
- 3) What did Jesus say about our enemies?
- 4) Why did Jesus say not to worry?
- 5) Why did the people like to listen to Jesus teach?

ANSWERS:

- 1) The first thing Jesus taught about on the mountain was how God wanted to bless them.
- 2) Jesus said when we pray, we should ask for God's best here on earth and trust Him for what we need.
- 3) Jesus said we should love our enemies.
- 4) Jesus said God takes care of the birds and the flowers and we are more important to God than they are.
- 5) The people liked to listen to Jesus teach because they knew He told the truth.