

Where Happiness Starts

Week 1 Large Group Script

Prop Suggestions: smiley faces to hang on the wall in your large group space.

-SLIDE- Welcome

Start kids countdown once all classes are present

-SLIDE- Series Intro (2-5 min)

Hey kids! Welcome to kids church. I'm so glad you could be here today. We're gonna have fun, right? Let's get started.

Today we are starting a new series. Are you excited? It's all about Jesus' most famous class He ever taught. It was called the Sermon on the Mount. Has anyone heard of this? **(allow a few kids to answer)** It's okay if you haven't because you're going to learn all about it today. This famous sermon is found in the book of Matthew in the New Testament.

Jesus was a great teacher. Did you know that? People loved to hear Him teach. In fact, that's why Jesus spoke on the side of a mountain. He wanted to stand in a place where a large crowd of people could hear Him. He started His sermon by saying, "Blessed are those...." Do you know what "blessed" means? It's just a fancy word for happy. So, Jesus starts by saying, "Happy are those...." I bet everyone sat up and listened especially well. Who doesn't want to hear how to be happy, right? Well, the people were in for a little surprise because Jesus was going to present happiness in a new and different way.

We'll talk some more about that in a few minutes but let's get ready to sing our first song. This will be our song for the whole series. It's all about being happy for all that Jesus did for us by dying on the cross for our sins.

Let's sing nice and loud and praise Him!

-SONG- Happy Day (3 min)

That was great! Good job. I think God loves to hear all your voices praising Him. Now, let's sit down so we can hear about our Big idea and Key Question for the day.

-SLIDE- Big Idea: Happiness starts with knowing you need God.
(repeat with kids)

-SLIDE- Key Question: Why do we need God?

I look forward to answering this question. Why do you think we need God? (allow a few kids to answer) Those are some great thoughts. We'll answer this question in a few minutes. But, first, let's listen to the video.

-VIDEO- Get Happy Week 1 (4 min)

-SLIDE- Recap (3 min)

So, what did we learn from the video today? Let's review...

- Where did Jesus teach His famous sermon? (on a mountain)
- What does the word "blessed" mean? (happy)
- Happiness starts by knowing what? (knowing you need God)

The video had some funny examples of what kids would do if they didn't have parents to help them. Can you think of some other funny examples? (allow a few kids to answer) Those are some great examples.

We need our parents. They do so much for us, right? None of you have jobs. How could you buy food, or have a place to live without money? Our parents provide all that stuff and they help you grow up to be the best kid you can be.

You know what? God wants to take care of each and every one of us just like our parents do, only He's better at it cuz He's God! He knows what's best for us and He wants to protect us, like our parents. All we have to do is realize we need Him and that we can't do it on our own. We need help. That's what our memory verse is about.

Stand up and let's say our memory verse for this week.

-SLIDE- Memory Verse: God (point to sky) makes you happy (smile and put pointer fingers at corners of mouth) when you realize your need (hands over chest) for Him (point to sky). Matthew 5:3 (Repeat)

Great job! I hope you practice that at home this week. I challenge all of you to memorize this verse. It's nice and short.

Now let's sing again.

-SONG- Feelin Fly (3 min)

Great job! Let's take a look at the Key Question again.

-SLIDE- Key Question: Why do we need God?

-SLIDE- Answer: 1. Forgiveness of sins 2. For everything else

We need God for lots of reasons. First, we need Him to help us with our sin problem. We learn in the series, Foundations, that we start a relationship with God by trusting Jesus. We can't do it on our own. Only Jesus can save us from our sin. And, God takes care of us in every other way, too. He gives us parents and healthy bodies and even takes care of the little things like food and where we live. We need God for everything. When you understand that, you will be happy.

-SLIDE- Big Idea: Happiness starts with knowing you need God.

-SLIDE- Operation Christmas Child

This is a special opportunity for you to bless other kids around the world. Did you that lots of kids never have any presents to open on Christmas? Not only that, they don't have any toys to call their own. But, you can change that! You can fill a shoebox full of special things to bless another child and show them the love of God. Have your parents pick up an information sheet at the KC desk today.

-SLIDE- Let's Pray

-SLIDE- Let's go to small groups