

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A - RCLB Lectionary

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Lectionary: 70 Read Sunday's Gospel: <u>Matthew 5:1-12a</u>

Gospel Summary

The beatitudes are the content of this Gospel and they begin what we commonly call, "The Sermon on the Mount." Jesus' words surely turned upside down the understanding his listeners had of the world and society. Jesus told them that the poor would be rich, the hungry would be filled, and the persecuted would be rewarded. In all, there are eight statements that give the people a new understanding of Moses' law and a clearer image of God's Kingdom.

Reflection for Families

Living the beatitudes is nothing new for parents. We often set our needs and desires aside in order to care for others, especially our children. Our greatest challenge, however, is to be a living witness to the first beatitude. If we understand and live out being "poor in spirit," the rest falls into place. For to be "poor in spirit," we rely completely on God. We know what the present situation holds, but recognize that there is a greater glory to come in God's Kingdom. Bringing the Gospel into Your Family

Make a list of some (or all eight) of the beatitudes described in today's Gospel. In words every family member can understand, give an interpretation of each beatitude's meaning. Go through a family photo album and point out how people in your immediate and extended family live out these beatitudes.

Discussion Starters

It's not always easy to do what's right. Once in particular I remember . . . One thing that brings me great happiness inside is . . . I hope to help others (or myself) find true happiness by . . .

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At Home Family Guide, theme 12 Kindergarten, chapter 19 Grade 1, chapter 19 Grade 2, chapter 18 Grade 3, chapter 19 Grade 4, chapter 21 Grade 5, chapters 19 and 22 Grade 6, chapters 2 and 21 Junior High, Morality, chapter 7