

A stylized, low-poly illustration of Jesus with long hair and a beard, wearing a dark robe, standing on a rocky outcrop and pointing his right hand towards the sky. The background consists of large, angular, light-colored shapes representing mountains or a cityscape. The entire image has a monochromatic teal/cyan color scheme.

Sermon *on the* Mount

FALL 2025
HOME GUIDE

Dear Church Family,

We're so excited to journey together through the Sermon on the Mount. In Matthew chapters 5 through 7, Jesus lays out a vision for life that turns the values of the world upside down. In His kingdom, the poor in spirit are blessed, enemies are loved, and the humble are called great. This is not the way the world works—this is a different kind of kingdom.

For the next 12 weeks, we're going to walk through Jesus' words together, discovering what it really means to follow Him—not just in belief, but in the way we live every single day.

To help us do that, we have created this Home Guide. Inside, you'll find tools to help you take what you're learning beyond Sunday:

- A monthly memory verse to write His Word on your heart
- Weekly applications to put Jesus' words into practice
- Daily prayers to guide you in seeking His kingdom
- And questions to help you reflect on how Jesus is shaping your heart and life.

We're also encouraging everyone—individuals and families—to find an accountability partner or another family to walk with during this series. Someone to encourage you, help you learn the memory verses, cheer you on with the weekly applications, and just keep the words of Jesus in front of you throughout the week. We believe community is key to real transformation.

As we dive into the Sermon on the Mount, our prayer is that we don't just listen to Jesus' words, but just like the wise man who built his house on the rock, we put them into practice and live them out everyday.

We are praying for you and cheering you on!

Your Pioneer Drive Staff

September

Weeks 1-4

Monthly Prayers

MORNING:

Today, may we remember who we are, that we are more than any success or failure. We are the salt of the earth, the light of the world, and a city on a hill. Today, may we give the world a taste of heaven. Amen.

EVENING:

As I reach the end of this day, I thank you for its many blessings. (Stop and reflect on what those are.) Forgive me for when I failed to see your goodness around me. (Stop and reflect on when this might have happened.) Bless me as I sleep. Give me strength for tomorrow that I might love You and others well. Amen.

Monthly Memory Verses

We encourage you to open your Bible and find these verses. Choose one or more levels to memorize this month.

Level 1 – Matthew 5:16

Level 2 – Matthew 5:14-16

Level 3 – Matthew 5:13-20

Week 1 – Matthew 7:13-14, 24-27

APPLICATION

Make sure your habits line up with your beliefs. When you wake up each morning, look at Scripture before you look at a screen.

Matthew 7:24

REFLECTION

What most often keeps you from putting Jesus' words into practice?

Week 2 – Matthew 5:1-12

APPLICATION

Think of someone who is currently or has recently been in a season of mourning. Consider how you might show them the comfort of Christ. (i.e. send a card, extend a dinner invite, etc.)

Matthew 5:4

REFLECTION

What do you think of when you think of blessed people? Why?

Week 3 – Matthew 5:1-12

APPLICATION

Invite a person, family, or group over for dinner and speak a word of blessing or encouragement over each person at the table.

Matthew 5:3-12

REFLECTION

What has God shown you thus far about blessing and His kingdom? Write a prayer of thanksgiving.

Week 4 – Matthew 5:13-16

APPLICATION

Each day, choose one intentional way to be a light and an encouragement to someone you encounter. *Matthew 5:14-16*

REFLECTION

Write down the titles and roles that you associate with yourself. Is *light of the world* one of them? Why or why not?

Bonus Prayer

For families with younger children: As the prayer progresses, move your hands to touch each part of their body.

by Justin Whitmel Earley

Jesus, bless their feet, may they bring good news.

Bless their legs, may they carry on in times of suffering.

Bless their backs, may they be strong enough to bear the burdens of others.

Bless their arms to hold the lonely, and their hands to do good work.

Bless their necks, may they turn their heads toward the poor.

Bless their ears to discern truth, their eyes to see beauty, and their mouths to speak encouragement.

Bless their minds, may they grow wise.

And finally, bless their hearts, may they grow to love you — and all that you have made — in the right order.

Amen.

October

Weeks 5-8

Monthly Prayers

MORNING:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread and forgive us our debts as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

EVENING:

Forgive any anger, hate, or selfishness that appeared in my heart today. You call us to more than this world accepts or justifies. You call us to holiness. Fill me with Your patience. Fill me with Your compassion. Fill me with Your radical love. Amen.

Monthly Memory Verses

We encourage you to open your Bible and find these verses. Choose one or more levels to memorize this month.

Level 1 – Matthew 6:21

Level 2 – Matthew 6:19-21

Level 3 – Matthew 6:19-24

Level 4 – Matthew 6:25-34

Week 5 – Matthew 5:17-26

APPLICATION

Be mindful of your anger and/or unforgiving heart. When you feel angry, try what is known as the Jesus prayer. Take a deep breath. When you inhale, silently say, "Jesus Christ, Son of God." When you exhale, silently say, "Have mercy on me, a sinner."

Matthew 5:21-26

REFLECTION

What is your usual response to the emotion of anger? Why? Write a prayer of confession.

Week 6 – Matthew 5:27-37

APPLICATION

Consider if there is anything causing sin or too much temptation in your life. Does something need to be eliminated or added? (i.e. eliminated - screen time or apps; added - accountability, fasting) Make that adjustment. *Matthew 5:29-30*

REFLECTION

In what ways are you following the world's standard of righteousness rather than Jesus'?

Week 7 – Matthew 5:38-48

APPLICATION

Prayerfully consider someone to serve. Do them a favor or show them kindness. Consider what it would look like to exceed expectations or go above and beyond in what you are doing.

Matthew 5:40-42

REFLECTION

Write a prayer for someone who is difficult to love.

Week 8 – Matthew 6:1-18

APPLICATION

Begin each morning by praying the Lord's prayer. *Matthew 6:5-15*

REFLECTION

What are the things you typically pray for? Does it look like Jesus' prayer in Matthew 6? Why or why not?

November

Weeks 9-12

Monthly Prayers

MORNING:

Today, help me to choose the narrow road. Help me to choose generosity instead of greed, rest instead of worry, compassion instead of criticism. Convict my spirit when I choose the wide road and the house on the sand. May I do more than simply hear Your words. Help me put them into practice. Amen.

EVENING:

Lord, thank you for today and give me strength for tomorrow. Free me from worry and fill me with Your comforting presence. You care for the birds of the air and the lilies of the field, and even more so, you care for me. Help me to rest in Your love. Amen.

Monthly Memory Verses

We encourage you to open your Bible and find these verses. Choose one or more levels to memorize this month.

Level 1 – Matthew 7:24

Level 2 – Matthew 7:24-27

Level 3 – Matthew 7:21-27

Week 9 – Matthew 6:19-24

APPLICATION

Financially bless someone. This can be as simple as buying someone's meal at a restaurant. *Matthew 6:19-24*

REFLECTION

After the basic bills are paid, where does most of your money go? How does that show what you value?

Week 10 – Matthew 6:25-34

APPLICATION

Memorize *Matthew 6:26* and recite it each time you catch yourself worrying.

REFLECTION

What do you most often worry about and why? Write a prayer asking for strength and trust.

Week 11 – Matthew 7:1-12

APPLICATION

Each time you find yourself being critical or judgemental of another, pray silently, "Lord, help me to see my own sin that I may better see you." *Matthew 7:1-6*

REFLECTION

Who or what are you most critical of and why? What needs to happen for your heart to be softened?

Week 12 – Matthew 7:13-29

APPLICATION

Write *Matthew 7:24* on a piece of paper and tape over the door frame of your home. As you begin your day, pray individually or as a family that your actions would be consistent with the way of Jesus.

REFLECTION

In what ways are you like the foolish builder? In what ways are you like the wise builder?

Final Reflection

How has the Lord moved in your life as a result of this 12-week study on the Sermon on the Mount? Write a prayer of thanksgiving.

Pioneer Drive
BAPTIST CHURCH