

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Beatitudes Prayer Service

**Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.**

Read Matthew 19:21, 29.

Lord,

We thank you for all the gifts that you have given us. Help us to recognize that all we have is yours and to find ways to give your gifts away again to all those around us, for your sake. Amen.

**Blessed are they who mourn, for they shall be comforted.**

Read Luke 7:12–15.

Lord,

We know that you are moved by the suffering of your people. Open our hearts also to the suffering around us, so that we also will be moved to offer comfort and to receive it from your hands. Amen.

**Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the land.**

Read Matthew 5:38–39.

Lord,

We are often tempted to respond with anger when someone wrongs us. Give us the strength to respond, instead, with patience and forgiveness to the slights of others. Amen.

**Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.**

Read Mark 8:2, 4–6, 8.

Lord,

We know that you were able to satisfy the hunger of your people in the wilderness. Help us to recognize that you are the only source that will satisfy all the desires of our heart. Amen.

**Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.**

Read Matthew 18:23–24, 26–30, 32–33.

Lord,

Like the wicked servant in this story we are not always willing to pass on God's great mercy to those who offend us. Help us to keep in mind all the many ways we have been forgiven so that we will never refuse to forgive those who wrong us. Amen.

**Blessed are the clean of heart, for they shall see God.**

Read Luke 10:38–42.

Lord,

Like Martha, we are often anxious about things that are not that important. Help us to focus all of our attention on you as Mary did so that we can learn to know you better. Amen.

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God.

Read Matthew 5:43–45.

Lord,

We know that the only way to bring peace to our troubled relationships is to treat even our enemies as if they were our family. Open our hearts to see that we are all brothers and sisters, children of the one God, our Father. Amen.

Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Read Luke 12:4, 7–8

Lord,

We are sometimes afraid to do what is right because we fear the ridicule or rejection of others. Help us to have the courage to follow you regardless of what those around us may do or say. Amen.

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## Keeping the Sabbath

*Look up the following passages in your bible. For each one, try to identify the larger story of which it is a part. Consider this larger story as you summarize what you have learned about the Sabbath from the passage.*

<b>Genesis 2:1–3</b>	<b>The larger story:</b>
Summary:	
<b>Exodus 12:22–30</b>	<b>The larger story:</b>
Summary:	
<b>Deuteronomy 5:12–15</b>	<b>The larger story:</b>
Summary:	
<b>Mark 2:23–18</b>	<b>The larger story:</b>
Summary:	

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## Family Relationships

*Fill in the blanks to complete each of the following statements.*

When one of my parents gives me a hug and tells me they love me, I \_\_\_\_\_.

The last time this happened was \_\_\_\_\_.

When I give my father/mother a hug and tell them I love them, he/she \_\_\_\_\_.

The last time this happened was \_\_\_\_\_.

The most annoying thing my younger brother/sister does is \_\_\_\_\_.

I usually respond by \_\_\_\_\_.

The most annoying thing my older brother/sister does is \_\_\_\_\_.

I usually respond by \_\_\_\_\_.

I am proud of my father/mother because \_\_\_\_\_.

When my father/mother asks me to do a chore I hate, my usual response is \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

When my immediate family gets together with aunts/uncles/cousins/grandparents, I feel \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

On a normal weekday, I spend how much time with my parents? \_\_\_\_\_.

This is good because \_\_\_\_\_.

This is bad because \_\_\_\_\_.

Here are some things I enjoy doing with my family:

\_\_\_\_\_.

If I ever have children of my own some day, here are some things about my family that I would like to pass on to my children: \_\_\_\_\_.

## Moral Dilemmas Related to Life Issues

- Emily is in the tenth grade. One of her best friends is a year older. A few months ago, Emily stopped seeing her friend because she had become involved with a group of classmates who regularly skipped classes and experimented with drugs. Emily felt it was too difficult to watch her friend engage in self-destructive behavior. Emily let her friend know that she would welcome her back with open arms if she would stop behaving in those ways. One afternoon, her friend stops by to visit and tells Emily that she thinks she is pregnant and that, if she is, she will have an abortion. She makes Emily promise not to tell her own parents or her friend's. Emily tries to persuade her friend that there are other options but does not want to break her promise.
  
- A couple recently celebrated sixty years of marriage. The husband is suffering from Parkinson's, a debilitating disease for which there is no cure. He can no longer care for himself, so his wife helps him to bathe, dress, and eat. She has some outside help but he resists too much assistance from anyone but his wife. Over time, the disease weakens his muscles, until breathing and swallowing become difficult. Knowing that he is dying, his wife decides not to take him to the hospital for a tracheotomy (a breathing tube) and a feeding tube that might prolong his life for a few months. Instead, she plans to continue to care for him at home until his death.
  
- A popular musician writes and performs many songs that appeal to young people. The songs often make drug use sound exciting and fun, trivialize sexual relations, and talk about violence against authority figures. When asked about his choice of topics he answers, "Look, I am just writing songs, not telling people how they should live. I'm just giving people music, which they happen to like. It isn't up to me what they do with them."

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## Sexuality Presentation Follow-up

One thing I liked about this presentation was

I think the speaker did a good job talking about

I wish the speaker had talked more about

One thing I learned that I didn't know before was

One thing the speaker said that surprised me was

I really agreed/disagreed (circle one) with the speaker when he/she said

I still have questions about

# Tabloid Survey

*Consider the following questions carefully and circle your answers on the scales provided.*

What best describes the frequency with which I read tabloid magazines or watch television programs that are based on revealing the private lives of famous people?

- ◆ Never—less than once a month
- ◆ 1–2 times/month
- ◆ once a week
- ◆ more than once a week—daily

The last time I read such a magazine or watched a television program of this kind was:

- ◆ never
- ◆ more than 6 months ago
- ◆ 3–4 months ago
- ◆ last month
- ◆ last week
- ◆ yesterday

I think the articles in these magazines are truthful:

- ◆ all the time
- ◆ most of the time
- ◆ occasionally
- ◆ rarely
- ◆ never

I think the articles in these magazines exaggerate or imply things they cannot prove

- ◆ all the time
- ◆ most of the time
- ◆ occasionally
- ◆ rarely
- ◆ never

I think these magazines cause harm to people's reputations and relationships

- ◆ constantly
- ◆ frequently
- ◆ occasionally
- ◆ rarely
- ◆ never

I think the public has a right to know how much about famous people's private lives?

- ◆ everything
- ◆ anything that can be known by following them in public
- ◆ only what the person chooses to talk about
- ◆ nothing

I think people in the tabloids like being talked about in that way

- ◆ all the time
- ◆ most of the time
- ◆ occasionally
- ◆ rarely
- ◆ never