

Lesson 4—Matthew 6:33

“But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you”

Review:

Many of the themes in this week’s lesson will be similar to last week. I have kept the same verse list to meditate on as you prepare. But where Lesson 3 focused on seeking with a “whole heart”, Lesson 4 will emphasize the need to “seek” diligently. Of course, there will be overlapping themes. Give the class opportunity to recite last week’s verse, and then introduce the new verse, mentioning you are continuing in this theme

Additional verses to consider:

- Proverbs 2:1-5 “My son, if you receive my words and treasure up my commandments with you, making your ear attentive to wisdom and inclining your heart to understanding; yes, if you call out for insight and raise your voice for understanding, if you seek it like silver and search for it as for hidden treasures, then you will understand the fear of the LORD and find the knowledge of God.”
- Proverbs 8:17, “I love those who love me, and those who seek me diligently find me.”
- Matthew 6, the full passage to be familiar with context
- Psalm 34:4 “I sought the Lord and he heard me, and delivered me.”
- Luke 15 (Lost coin, lost sheep, lost son) This may more accurately be a picture of God seeking us, a slightly larger concept perhaps too big to bring up. But if it seems to fit, it is a beautiful picture to

note that though we are called to seek him, and *should* seek Him with our whole heart, he also, is seeking us. He is looking for a man who will “stand in the gap” (Ezekiel 22:30), for “righteous men” (Genesis 18), for men who will “come” to him (Luke 13:34). He “seeks true worshippers” and to save “the lost.” Some could even say he even sought out Adam and Eve in the garden after they’d sinned.

Before Class Activity:

- Choose something valuable (preferably that can be given away—a \$5, \$10, or \$20 bill would be perfect, a special toy may work too). Hide it before class. Don’t make it too obvious, they should need to do some serious “seeking” to find it.
- Once the class arrives, begin by telling them this special prize is hidden somewhere in the room/yard/etc. Give them 5 minutes to seek. Make sure they know if they find it, they get to keep it.

Read & Discuss the Word:

- Does anyone know where this verse comes from (sermon on the mount)
- Does anyone know what other things Jesus was talking about in this passage?
 - It may be helpful to read through the end of Matthew 6

Apply the Word:

- What is Jesus telling us here? Sometimes we think we can’t seek God because we have other things we need to do. (Maybe it’s

sports or a music lesson or some urgent school assignment) In Matthew 6, there are people that are worried about clothes and food, but Jesus gives them a picture of the sparrows and the lilies. If God knows how to take care of the sparrows and the lilies, doesn't he know how to take care of us? Do we need to worry about all the extra things? We don't. Jesus assures us. Seek Him first, and he'll take care of everything else.

- Teachers: feel free to add in your own examples of times when you put God first, and he blessed the result.

Secondly, or a separate point to emphasize:

Sometimes when we seek God, we must look diligently. We must ask questions; we need to talk with others. We need to give our all. We may even need to give up something else. What if _ (the student who found the prize)_ had given up when he didn't find it right away? He would have missed out on something special. God is a treasure. He's a treasure worth seeking and spending our time and energy to pursue.

Activity: Color the Word

Color the workbook or create a memory bracelet for the verse out of letter beads and elastic

Watch or Sing the Word:

Seeds Family Worship:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NbxcYOwD20w>

*not so crazy about this one, but it could prob be sung in a less crazy way

Oldie, but goodie—

Seek Ye First: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ss21IHl81_E