

**Lesson Plans that Work**  
**Year C – Sixth Sunday After Epiphany**  
**Lesson Plans for Younger Children**

**Scripture: Luke 6:17-26**

Epiphany: Shimmering glimpses of the abundance of the Kingdom of God. Perhaps we, too, noticed a star and followed it. Or maybe someone led us to the gift of faith. Now we take the Light — the Good News — out into the world. Will others see the light shimmering in us? Will they risk taking a journey into faith with us?

**A Notation for this Week's Gospel**

Last week, we hear about Jesus calling the first disciples. Today, Jesus introduces new teachings to his disciples and those who are gathered around him. In Luke 6:12-16, Jesus chooses and names his 12 disciples, so this is his first teaching directly to them. A teaching of blessing the poor, a teaching of reversals.

**Theme: Blessing**

**Before:** Look at the activities listed below and decide which one/ones you will do with the children. Gather the supplies needed.

**Beginning:** Invite the Children to gather together. Ask them “I wonder if you know what the word Blessing means?”

**Opening Prayer:** Good and gracious God, thank you for the blessings we have in this life. Help us to be a blessing to others and live as you have taught us. Amen.

**The Scripture: Luke 6:17-26**

Read the lesson from a Children’s Bible.

**Reflection Questions:**

- I wonder what your favorite part was?
- I wonder what questions you have?
- I wonder what blessings you have received?
- I wonder what blessings you can give?

**Activities:**

Invite the children to talk about how we might be able to bless each other and thus live into what Jesus is teaching about today. (The last question of the reflections questions can begin this conversation.) After some brainstorming, invite them to create some blessings for others.

**Blessing Boxes**

Invite the children to create boxes that will hold the blessings they can give to others. You can use shoe boxes or small cardboard boxes. Invite them to take 3x5 cards and write or draw different kinds of blessings they can give to the people around them. Each week, they can draw a card and do what the blessing card says. (Ideas: donate items to a homeless shelter, visit a homeless shelter and give out blessing bags to those who are there, write a note to someone who

is feeling sad, give someone flowers if they are having a hard time, tell someone you love them, etc.) Have them decorate the outside of the box if there is time.

### **Blessing Bags**

Invite the children to create blessing bags for a local homeless shelter or women's shelter. Blessing bags can include snacks, hygiene products, personal care items, etc. You can contact local shelters to see what might be helpful to include.

### **Blessing Pictures**

Invite the children to create drawings and pictures for people in the community to pass on blessings and love.

**Getting Closure:** Gather in a circle and invite people to share what they have created.

**Closing Prayer:** God of many blessings, as we go forth into the world, guide us in our ways so we can be a blessing for others in this world and so that we can see your blessings all around us. Amen.

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