

INTERNALIZE the Beatitudes' SUPREME HAPPINESS – the mindset of Christ!

1. **YES! to FREEDOM from PRIDE, do “nothing of myself” (John 5:30) to find the joy of “the kingdom of God at hand” ... “within you”. (Matt. 4:17, Luke 17:21)**
“How happy are the humble-minded, for the kingdom of Heaven is theirs!” 5:3 Phillips
2. **YES! to COURAGE TO CONFRONT SORROW... & find COMFORT in “the control that Love holds over all” (SH 514)**
“How happy are those who know what sorrow means for they will be given courage and comfort!” 5:4 J.B. Phillips
3. **YES! to the MEEK STRENGTH of always SEEKING GOD FIRST ... for with that priority I will find “all things ... added unto” me. (Matt. 6:33)**
“Happy are those who claim nothing, for the whole earth will belong to them!” 5:5
4. **YES! to HUNGERING & THIRSTING TO BE GOD'S BEST ME... for only when I express God's likeness will I be fully satisfied! (Gen. 1:26+)**
“Happy are those who are hungry & thirsty for goodness, for they will be fully satisfied!” 5:6
5. **YES! to BEING QUICK to FORGIVE...
... for only then will I be fully forgiven also!**
“Happy are the merciful, for they will have mercy shown to them!” 5:7 Phillips
6. **YES! to BEING PURE IN HEART, sincere to my core,
... for then only will I clearly SEE God and ALL of creation.**
“Happy are the utterly sincere, for they will see God!” Matt. 5:8
7. **YES! to BEING A PEACEMAKER ...
& to finding my place as God's child, WINNING without a fight.**
“You're blessed when you can show people how to cooperate instead of compete or fight. That's when you discover who you really are, & your place in God's family.” 5:9
8. **YES! to GLADLY STANDING FOR WHAT IS RIGHT ... EVEN when bullied for it
... knowing I'm in good company with all “spiritual seer(s)” (SH 593:4)... who God loves and protects.**
“Happy are those who have suffered persecution for the cause of goodness, for the kingdom of Heaven is theirs! “And what happiness will be yours when people blame you and ill-treat you and say all kinds of slanderous things against you for my sake! Be glad then, yes, be tremendously glad—for your reward in Heaven is magnificent. They persecuted the prophets before your time in exactly the same way.” Matt. 5:10-12

WITH TWO BEATITUDES IN THIS WEEK'S BIBLE LESSON (cit. B7/Matt. 5:6 & cit. B9/Matt. 5:3), HERE'S A FUN WAY I (Warren) HOPE TO HELP THE 4TH GRADE BOYS IN MY SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS TAKE HOME AND REMEMBER THEM.

[Warren:] I have taped to the bottoms of six Frisbees easy-to-repeat, "spiritual spins" of each Beatitudes (see below). Students will get to take their gift Frisbees home, after we play "Disc Golf" with them. Before throwing their Frisbee toward the Disc Golf catcher/goal (or a blanket or other target), each player needs to say the first line (below) on their first shot, the second line on their second shot and the third sentence (the Beatitude according to JB Phillips translation) on their third shot, if they need to take it to make it. Each player will keep his own score card. As in golf, the low score wins.

The purpose of this game/activity is to help students take home and internalize the supreme happiness of the "mind(set) of Christ" that Jesus shared in the Beatitudes. (The Beatitude mindset of what to say YES to -- as well as the Commandments mindset of what to say NO to -- are both [available as Downloadable attachments in the online version of these GEMs](#), if you want to try it for your class, your family or yourself.)