

# A VALUABLE LESSON

LESSON 24 → Matthew 5:1-12; Psalm 119:1-6



*That day at the beach, Gramps taught Kyan a valuable lesson.*

“**H**i, Gramps!” Kyan flashed a quick grin of welcome. He moved over on the big rock where he was seated, looking out over the ocean. His grandfather eased into the small space by Kyan’s side. “I’m right pleased that the weather turned so nice for your first afternoon with us, Kyan. You can really see a long way out today.”

“Hey, look!” Kyan’s eyes were dancing with excitement.

“Wow! That was a really big wave! Look at the spray—it went way over the top of that big rock. This is a neat place, Gramps. You picked a great place to retire.”

For several moments the two sat there together, watching as wave after wave washed over the rocks before them. Finally, Grandpa spoke again. “Your grandmother told me we’d eat dinner at 5:30. It’s 5 o’clock now. How about seeing if we can help her a little?”

“Okay, Gramps. We’ll come back out tomorrow morning. It’s going to be getting dark before long anyway.”



## I CAN BE HAPPY WITH JESUS.

*If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them. — John 13:17*

*The next morning Kyan awoke, eager to walk on the beach and watch the waves. But when he looked out the bedroom window he saw, to his dismay, a heavy fog lay over the water, hiding all but the closest rocks, and muffling the sound of the waves. I guess this isn't so perfect after all, he thought as he turned from the window and began to dress for breakfast.*

*His grandfather saw Kyan's disappointed look when he entered the kitchen. "Kinda messy out there right now," he said. "But it'll probably clear up around noon." Kyan's hopes rose. Maybe this would be a fun weekend anyway!*

*When breakfast was over, Grandpa reached for the Bible on the table beside him, and read aloud a portion of the Sermon on the Mount. As he finished and shut the Bible, he noticed that Kyan looked a little puzzled. "Something troubling you, Son?" he inquired kindly.*

*"Not really," Kyan answered with a sigh. "It's just . . . well, I'm having a hard time figuring this out. I've memorized the Beatitudes that you just read, Gramps. I know all the words. It's just that some of them don't mean anything to me. I guess that sounds dumb, doesn't it." Kyan stopped, sud-*

*denly embarrassed at what he was saying.*

*Grandpa shook his head slowly, "No, Kyan, it doesn't sound dumb at all. In fact, we learn better when we realize we don't have all the answers. If you're through eating, grab your jacket and come outside. There's something I'd like you to see."*

*Kyan dashed to his room for his jacket, and then ran outside to join his grandpa, who was standing at the head of the trail to the beach. Together they headed down toward the sand.*

*After a few moments, Grandpa pointed out ahead of them. "Remember the big rocks we saw last night? And how the waves sometimes splashed over them? Look at them now."*

*Kyan peered through the fog. The big rocks now stood surrounded only by sand and fog, the ocean rumbling at a distance behind them. As he walked closer, he saw other, smaller rocks he hadn't even seen when the water was higher.*

*Grandpa continued, "Those rocks stay there year after year. The waves come and go, the storms beat on them, but they never move. Sometimes you see them, sometimes they're hidden—by water or*

*by fog. But you know they're always there."*

*Kyan nodded, and looked at his grandfather questioningly.*

*"Kyan, the principles Jesus taught in the Beatitudes are a little like those rocks. They are always the same, and they are always there. We may not know what they mean, just like sometimes we don't see the whole rock out there. We read the words, and we may get an idea, but we feel there is more than we are seeing. Sometimes we think we know, and then we learn that it means much more than we had thought."*

*"So don't feel bad because you don't have a grown-up understanding of what the Beatitudes mean. As you grow and you learn more about God, your understanding of the whole Bible will grow. I'll tell you what. Let's go help Grandma with the dishes, then let's sit down and put the Beatitudes into words you can understand. By the time we're through, maybe the fog will have lifted and we can enjoy being outside again."*

*Kids: Look at the activity page for this lesson to see what Grampa and Kyan came up with.*

## A HAPPINESS HOW TO

Some people have a hard time understanding the Beatitudes. The word *beatitudes* means “blessings.” Those who are blessed of God enjoy great happiness and joy. In the text below and to the right, there are two examples of how we can say the Beatitudes. One way is to quote the Scripture from the Bible. The other way is to explain what each verse means in our own words. Match up the Scripture verses to the right with the descriptions below. Place the letter of the descriptions below on the line next to the verse it corresponds to on the right.

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| A. The earth will someday belong to those who are patient and gentle with others.  | _____ Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. (verse 3)  |
| B. God will be seen by those whose hearts are free from all sin.   | _____ Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted. (verse 4)   |
| C. There is a great reward in Heaven for those who are treated badly and have lies told about them just because they love Jesus. | _____ Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth. (verse 5)   |
| D. Those who want to learn to serve God better and better will receive that wish.  | _____ Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled. (verse 6)  |
| E. Heaven is for those who do not think they are better than others.   | _____ Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy. (verse 7)  |
| F. Those who don't hurt or punish anyone who is in their power will receive mercy themselves.                                    | _____ Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God. (verse 8)  |
| G. Heaven is for those who are treated badly just because they love Jesus.   | _____ Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God. (verse 9)  |
| H. Those who are sad will be comforted.  | _____ Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. (verse 10)  |
| I. God's children are those who want to make peace.  | _____ Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake. Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven. (verses 11 and 12) |

WHO IS  
JESUS?