

## Chapter 21

***Be Happy!***

O Lord of hosts, restore us; let your face shine upon us, that we may be saved.  
*Psalm 80:8*

**For the Parents:**

In chapter 21 your child learned to:

- Identify actions that Jesus called blessed
- Match the blessing and reward of each Beatitude
- Begin to memorize the Beatitudes

The Beatitudes are the prescription of Christian happiness. Though sometimes difficult to follow, they lead us toward the kingdom of God. If we are to be God's People, we must first let God reign in our lives. The Beatitudes call us to a different standard of living. They call us to be poor in spirit, to have humble hearts, to be peacemakers. The Beatitudes tell us to grieve the loss of love, to be merciful, and to make good moral decisions. They ask us to be righteous and to accept the criticism that may result. They ask us to take the road less traveled because that is the road to the kingdom of God, the road to eternal happiness. Each time we are peacemakers in our home, are merciful toward an enemy or a friend, or serve God in other ways, we partake of God's gift of eternal life. So rejoice and be glad! Yours is the kingdom of God.

**With Your Child:**

1. Brush up on the small acts of kindness that make life pleasant in your family. Keep track of the little words and gestures that mean a lot.
2. Help your child memorize the Beatitudes. Write each beatitude on a sheet of heavy paper. Then cut each sheet in half, dividing the first phrase, beginning with *Blessed*, from the second phrase, beginning with *for*. Mix up the phrases and then try to put them together correctly.
3. Read about Saint Lawrence on the Review and Explore page.