

# *Disability Campaign.org*

## **Beatitudes for People who are Blind: *I'm happy when you ...***



People who are blind have a visual disability, but that doesn't mean they do not have feelings or cannot process thoughts. If you are a friend to someone who is blind or if—through your work, hobbies, or volunteering—you interact with people who are blind, below are some “Beatitude for the Blind” depicting how happy a person who is blind can be when you treat them with kindness and respect.

1. I'm happy when you speak normally to me, for yelling only damages my hearing!
2. I'm happy when you identify yourself to me, for I may not know who you are!
3. I'm happy when you use verbal description, for you paint the world so I can see it!
4. I'm happy when you ask rather than assume, for in asking me if I need assistance, you show me dignity!
5. I'm happy when you tell me you're leaving, for it humiliates me to talk to the air!
6. I'm happy when you express your feelings in sound, for I cannot hear your smiles.
7. I'm happy when you observe and learn from me, for it's easy to give unwarranted advice!

8. I'm happy when you respect my guide dog and white cane, for both assist me with mobility!

9. I'm happy when you believe that I can, for to figure out how makes me free!

10. I'm happy when you connect to me through the senses of hearing and touch, for both give light to my blindness!

11. I'm happy when you speak to me instead of my guide dog, for she/he may not understand your instructions!

12. I'm happy when you learn that blindness is not a liability, for that discovery helps you to see that I'm just like you!

13. I'm happy when you don't leave me stranded, for your commitment to give a ride home to me seemed real!



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