

More Than Hearing Worksheet

Episode: AOrd4x2017

Text: Matthew 5:1-12

When Jesus saw the crowds, **he went up the mountain**; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. 2 Then **he began to speak, and taught them, saying:**

3 “**Blessed** are the **poor in spirit**, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

4 “**Blessed** are **those who mourn**, for **they will be comforted**.

5 “**Blessed** are the **meek**, for they will inherit the earth.

6 “**Blessed** are **those who hunger and thirst for righteousness**, for **they will be filled**.

7 “**Blessed** are the **merciful**, for **they will receive mercy**.

8 “**Blessed** are **the pure in heart**, for they will see God.

9 “**Blessed** are **the peacemakers**, for they will be called children of God.

10 “**Blessed** are **those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake**, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

11 “**Blessed** are you **when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account**. 12 **Rejoice and be glad**, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

Primary Expressed Intelligence - {MWD} Music {D2} Self

Math - S, Music - I/S, People - S, Self - I

Smarts	Images in the text/ interesting exegesis	Illustrations	SFX
Word - Verbal/Linguistic	Some interesting background on the term blessing		
Eye - Visual/Spatial			
Math - Logical/Mathematical			Graphing power dynamics in the world and in the Kingdom of heaven <i>See LCE RISE Bible Study</i>

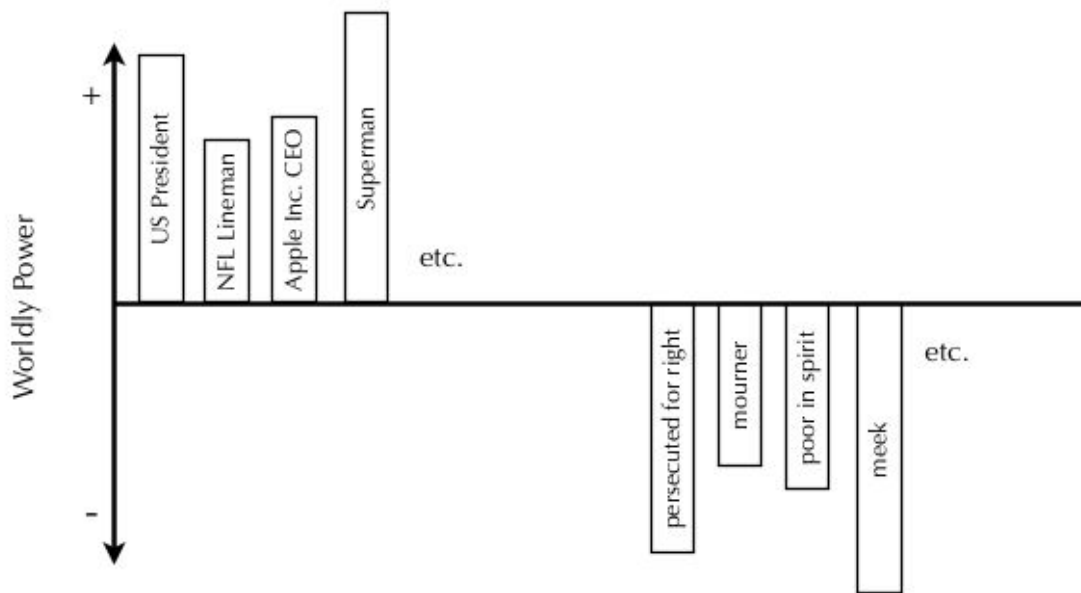
			Day 4 See below
Body - Kinesthetic		Where in your body do you feel blessing? Head? Heart? Gut? Spine? Hands? Is it different if giving or receiving the blessing?	Consider offering prayer and perhaps laying on of hands and/or anointing with oil for any who seek the blessing of Christ, as is appropriate in your tradition. (Remember that you may need the approval of your governing body for such a service.)
Musical		Anthems/Hymns: * Blessed Are You by Mark Hayes * Blessed Are They by David Haas * Also Blessed Are They by David Haas , but with hand motions on the chorus for Body Smart bonus! * And again as a hymn	Choral reading Chant (see show notes and resources for both... or each)
Natural		Google images for mount of the beatitudes will show the Church of the Beatitudes, which sits halfway up a hill on the north shore of the Sea of Galilee. There is a kind of natural amphitheatre in the terrain there that made it a good site for the actual sermon or for stories that that's where it took place. Mt. Arbel on the western shore is much higher with slow rise, west to east, and a steep cliff facing the lake. It is much more a mountain in that region, but it is also much further from Capernaum and may not offer the same amphitheatrical setting,	

		although it kind of does. View from the top of Arbel	
People - Interpersonal			How can you offer or extend Christ's blessing to people in your life this week? What language might you use? What body language ? Will you get their permission to bless them first? Will you let them know you are seeking to bless them? What criteria might you use when deciding whom to bless?
Self - Intrapersonal		How does it feel to be blessed, to receive a blessing? What emotions are connected with it? What physical sensations ?	

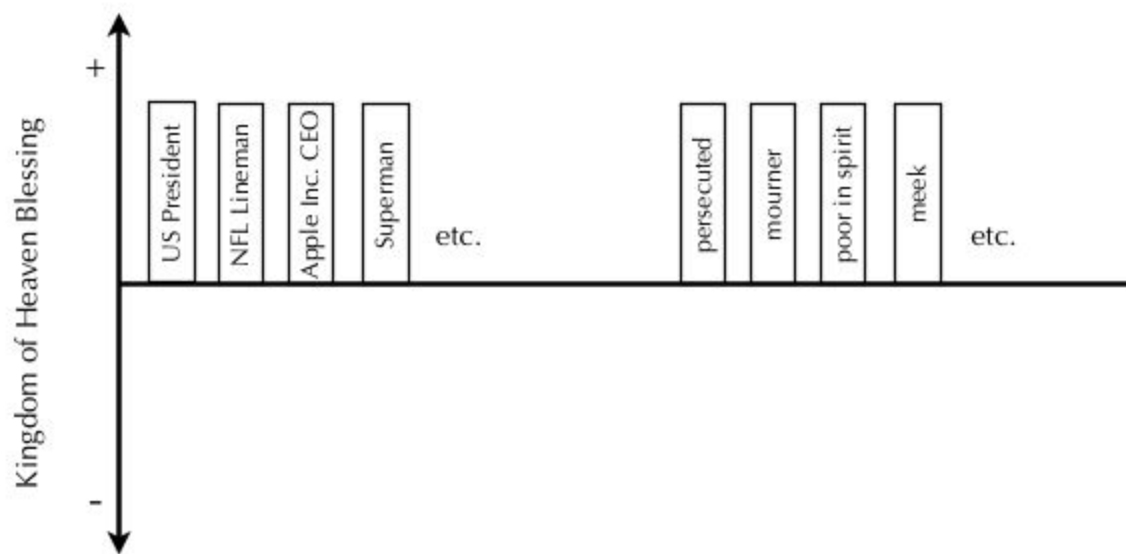
Mapping Power

Have the students read the Beatitudes. Compare the list of people described in these verses with the list of powerful people made earlier. What do you notice?

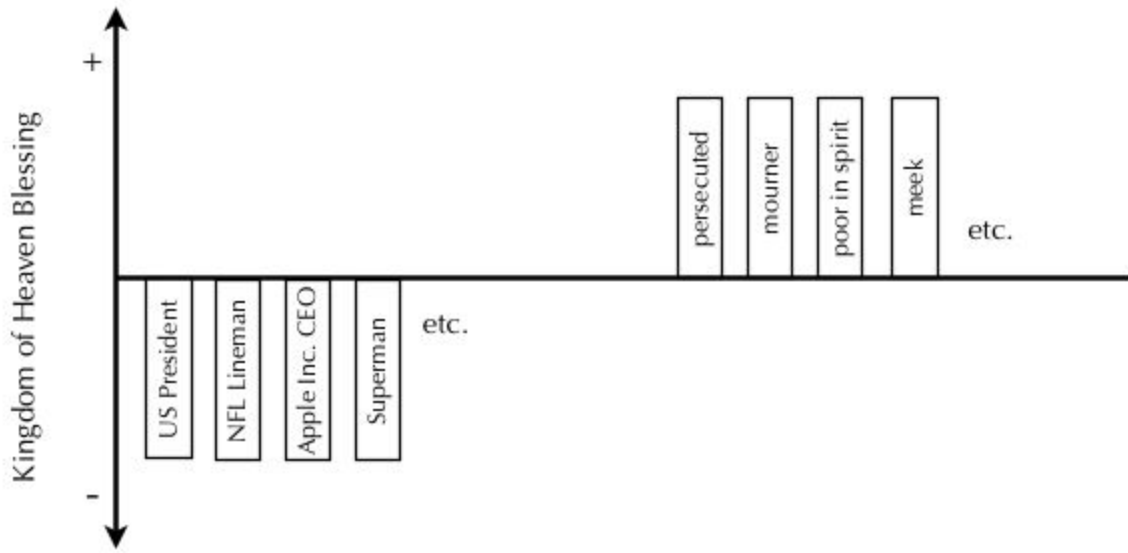
Draw a bar graph comparing the worldly power of top nine people on the power list and the nine kinds of people in the beatitudes. The values are relative, so don't worry about being exact. Use the y-axis for the power axis and list the people on the x-axis, like this:



Next, draw a similar graph, only comparing these folks in the kingdom of heaven. This may cause a lot of questions and discussion, which would be great! Resist the urge to give quick answers, but let the students wrestle with the question for a bit. It might look like this:

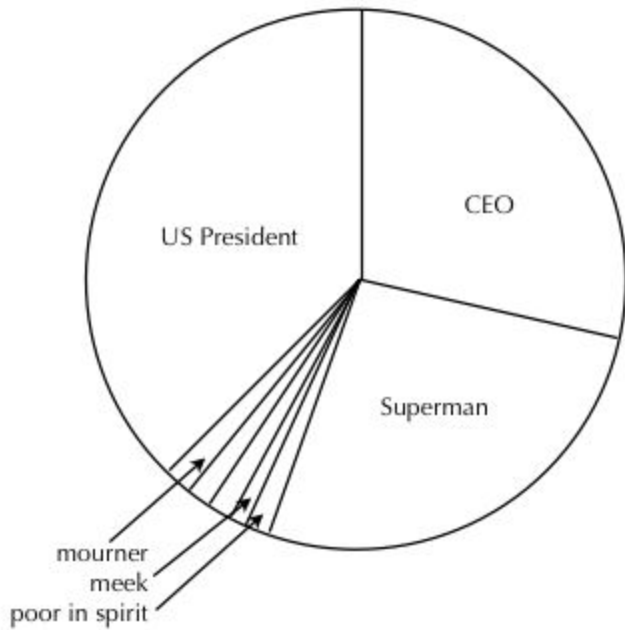


Or maybe this:

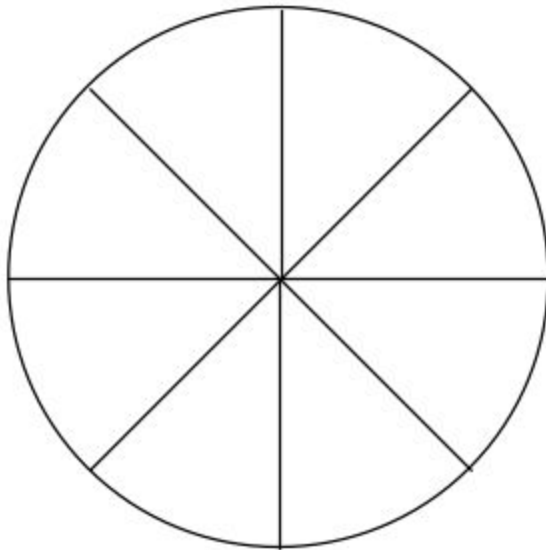


Another way at this would be to create pie charts, like this:

Worldly Power



Kingdom of Heaven Blessing



The point is to show the difference between how the world thinks about power and how the Beatitudes show us that God sides with the powerless. This isn't a new idea with Jesus. It was repeated throughout the Old Testament Law, wisdom literature, and books of the prophets. But Jesus reiterates it clearly in the Sermon on the Mount. The Beatitudes show us a vision for how God intends human society to work, that the weak, the suffering, the powerless, and those who long for justice will be blessed. Some commentators (N.T. Wright?) have suggested they also show us how God will bring the Kingdom into the world, by blessing these "underclasses!"