

Jesus Christ Teaches the Nephites the Beatitudes

SAMPLE

The Condition

1. Blessed are the poor in spirit who come unto me
2. Blessed are all they that mourn
3. Blessed are the meek
4. Blessed are all they who do hunger and thirst after righteousness
5. Blessed are the merciful
6. Blessed are all the pure in heart
7. Blessed are all the peacemakers
8. Blessed are all they who are persecuted for my name's sake

The Result

- ___ For they shall inherit the earth.
- ___ For they shall see God.
- ___ and ___ For theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
- ___ For they shall obtain mercy.
- ___ For they shall be called the children of God.
- ___ For they shall be comforted.
- ___ For they shall be filled with the Holy Ghost.

3 Nephi 12:3-8



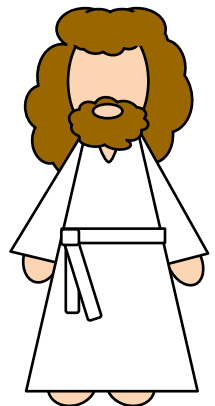
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Read 3 Nephi 12:3-8 and have the children place the corresponding numbers for the results.

Answers:

3,

6,

1 and 8,

5,

7,

2,

4

Next page: About the Beatitudes

The Beatitudes 3 Nephi 12:3-12

The poor in spirit who come unto me

Those who are poor in spirit—who are broken in spirit, sad of spirit or depressed, or those who are sin-laden and thereby spiritually bankrupt—cannot be saved on their own. The words “who come unto me” in the Bountiful sermon complete the intended message. There is no virtue in being broken or in being a spiritual beggar, except to the degree that we come unto the Lord. “Ye, come unto Christ, and be perfected in him.” (Moroni 10:32)

All they that mourn

One is not an heir of heavenly approbation who simply spends his or her days mourning. There are, however, certain kinds of mourning which are commanded and thus commended. Those who mourn for their sins—and more important, who, like Nephi, mourn because of their fallen nature. (see 2 Nephi 4:17-35) —and subsequently turn to Christ with full purpose of heart come to know the comfort and peace of forgiveness. The Saints who mourn with those that mourn—and who thus fulfill their covenantal obligations ...shall in time gain eternal life. Those who mourn because of the cost of Christian discipleship, who face the challenges of a cynical and skeptical world head on, who “suffer his cross and bear the shame of the world” (Jacob 1:8), shall eventually find rest with him who mourned as none other has in time or in eternity.

The meek

“They are the ones who willingly conform to the gospel standards, thus submitting their wills to the will of the Lord. They are not fearful, the spiritless, the timid. Rather, the most forceful dynamic personality who ever lived...said of Himself, ‘I am meek and lowly in heart.’” —Bruce R. McConkie *Mormon Doctrine* p. 474. Meekness is not just humility...Meekness may involve...the ability to be in control emotionally. The meek person is one who feels little or not attachment to this world’s trappings.

Inherit the earth

A modern revelation declared that “the resurrection from the dead is the redemption of the soul. And the redemption of the soul is through him that quickeneth all things, in whose bosom it is decreed that the poor and the meek of the earth shall inherit it.” (D&C 88:16-17)

Hunger and thirst after righteousness

To hunger and thirst after righteousness is to yearn with all one’s soul for the things of the Spirit; to crave that goodness of character...to want more than anything else to enjoy the fruit of the Spirit, the gifts and signs and wonders which always accompany faith. ...To have an eye single to the glory of God...to trust completely in the Savior, to rely wholly upon his mercy and grace, to yield one’s heart unto God.

Filled with the Holy Ghost

The Spirit of God sanctifies—it cleanses and purges filth and dross out of the human soul as though by fire. The Spirit does far more, however, than remove uncleanness. It also fills. It fills one with a holy element, with a sacred presence that motivated the person to a godly walk and goodly works.

The merciful To the degree that we are merciful with others, God will be merciful with us. We shall be judged according to the judgment we render (JST Matthew 7:1-2)

The pure in heart When we manage to live in such a way that our actions are above reproach, we are said to have clean hands. When we live in such a way that our desires are appropriate and are but reflected by our righteous actions, then we are said to be pure in heart. To be pure in heart is to be single, focused, riveted, aligned with the ways and will of the Almighty. It is to have no desires but desires for righteousness. When a Latter-day Saint is pure in heart, he seeks to build up and establish the cause of Zion: Zion is the pure in heart (see D&C 97:21)

They shall see God In a metaphorical sense, a faithful person comes to “see God” as he or she begins to see more clearly the hand of God in all things. ...In the ultimate sense, one who through the sanctifying powers of the Spirit, acquires true sainthood and therefore become pure in heart, is entitled to see the Lord face to face.

The peacemakers The Lord commissions his servants to do all they can to establish peace on earth. Treaties and agreements and armistices are to applauded, but the only ultimate peace in the world will come through the power of Jesus Christ. Jesus Christ is the Prince of Peace. His message, the gospel of salvation, is a message of peace. He brings peace—but not as the world does (see John 14:27)—to those who will receive him, come unto him, obey him follow him and submit to him. He remits sin, and that brings peace. He steadies the troubled souls, which brings peace. He comforts the bereaved, which brings peace. He offers heavenly perspective, which brings peace. His spirit teaches the “peaceable things of the kingdom” (D&C 39:6) In addition, those whom he calls and sends forth in his name are peacemaker; these are they which bear glad tiding, which publish peace, even the message that God reigns (see Mosiah 15:13-18)

“The peace the gospel brings is not just the absence of war. It is the opposite of war. Gospel peace is the opposite of any conflict, armed or unarmed. It is the opposite of national or ethnic hostilities, of civil or family strife...By preaching righteousness, our missionaries seek to treat the causes of war. They preach repentance form personal corruption, greed, and oppression because only by individual reformation can we overcome corruption and oppression by groups or nations. By inviting all to repent and come unto Christ, our missionaries ware working for peace in this world by changing the hearts and behavior of individual men and women”
(Dallin H. Oaks CR April 1990)

Joseph Fielding McConkie and Robert L. Millet Doctrinal Commentary on the Book of Mormon Vol. 4 pgs. 65-68