Complaining or Participating

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Causes for Complain

- 132 million orphans
- 5.7 million children victims of forced & bonded labor
- 50 million people die each year from water-borne disease

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Causes for Complain

- Everyday HIV kills 6000 people; another 8200 infected daily
- 1 million children below the age of 5 die every year from malnutrition
- More than 40% women in India have no access to education

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Politics Complaining

Acts 1:6-8

“So when they met together, they asked him, “Lord are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?”

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Jesus’ Response

Acts 1:6-8

He said to them, “It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

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Purpose of Empowerment
(Lk. 4:18-19; Isaiah 61:1-11)

“The Spirit of the Lord .... anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favour.”

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Empowered to Participate
(Mathew 5:3-12)

“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.”

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Empowered to Participate
(Mathew 5:3-12)

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. “Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me.

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How do we Participate?

1. Participate by showing mercy to the poor  
   (Mt. 5:7)
How do we Participate?

2. Participate by comforting those who mourn
(Mt. 5:8)
How do we Participate?

3. Participate by being a peacemaker
(Mt. 5:9)

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How do we Participate?

4. Participate by working for Global Justice
   (Mt. 5:10 - 11)