

Use this chart from *Walking with the Poor* by Bryant L. Myers to respond to the questions.

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Theme	Social system	Lie
Captivity to our own god complex	Social Political Economic Religious	We are the social system. It is right that we be served. We are the key to successful economics. God has chosen us.
Marred identity of the non-poor	Social Political Economic Religious	We are better at running things. We were made to make decisions for others. Having and winning is all there is. We are the blessed of God.
Inadequacies in worldview	Social Political Economic Religious	Our place in the social order is fixed. We are intended to rule. It's a competition; some win, some don't. God has a formula for success, and they didn't follow it.

Figure 4-17: The web of lies of the non-poor.

"The poor suffer from marred identities and the belief that they have no meaningful vocation other than serving the powerful. The non-poor...suffer from the temptation to play god in the lives of the poor, and believe that what they have in terms of money, knowledge, and position is the result of their own cleverness or the right of their group."

-*Walking with the Poor*, p. 17

Clarify: What words or ideas are fuzzy or confusing for you? What do you need clarification on?

Connect: Which of these lies may have played some role in the story of the Rich Young Ruler?

Connect: Which of these lies do you particularly see alive in your community, neighborhood, or family?

Reflect: Which lies are especially alluring to you? Which lies do you sometimes believe to be true?

Analyze: Consider your answer to the above question. Do those tend to come from the “social,” “political,” “economic,” or “religious” categories? Does that suggest anything to you?