

ESSENTIALS FOR FRONTLINE WORKERS

Week 6: Share with Others by Serving

Luke 4:14-30

Did you ever go back to your hometown or a cherished place you visited as a child? How did you feel? Was it the same as you remembered?

Inaugural Agenda

“The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.” Luke 4:18-19

After His baptism by John, Jesus returns to the synagogue in Nazareth to lay out the agenda for His Kingdom. Why do you think He went to His hometown to announce this?

Jesus could have chosen to read any part of the Old Testament. What does His selection of these verses from Isaiah say about His priorities?

Good News and Good Deeds

When Jesus speaks about the poor, prisoners, blind and oppressed is He speaking about physical qualities, spiritual qualities or both?

Some churches focus only on doing good deeds while others only on telling good news. Why do you think this either/or attitude exists in the church? If you had to choose between sharing your faith and helping the poor which would you choose? Why?

Are You on the Travel Team?

*Jesus said to them, “Surely you will quote this proverb to me: ‘Physician, heal yourself!’ And you will tell me, ‘Do here in your hometown what we have heard that you did in Capernaum.’”
“Truly I tell you,” he continued, “no prophet is accepted in his hometown.” Luke 4:23-24*

After these words Jesus points out how the prophets Elijah and Elisha ministered to non-Israelites like a Sidonian Widow and a Syrian General. Why does this make His neighbors so angry they wanted to kill Him?

What point is Jesus trying to make about His Kingdom? How do we avoid being a church that is inwardly focused and, instead, take our faith to the frontlines?

What can our group do to serve others?

Who can you invite to Holy Week and Easter services this week?

Who can you invite to join us next week?

Finish in prayer asking God to help you apply His Word.