

Small Group Questions – June 19/22

Read Luke 4:16-21

1. Luke records Jesus' inaugural speech to His public ministry as the One claiming to be the Messiah who is anointed with the Holy Spirit of God. Jesus as Messiah has been anointed for a particular task. First, He was anointed to proclaim good news to the poor. What does the proclamation of good news mean to the disenfranchised and the marginalized of the world?
2. Jesus was anointed Messiah for a second task: to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour. The year of the Lord's favour refers to the Jewish jubilee year, a special time in Israel when all debts were forgiven, all slaves freed, and all lands given back to their ancestral owners. How do we live out the proclamation that the jubilee year has already come to our world in Jesus Christ?

Read Isaiah 61:3-7

1. Jesus was anointed Messiah for a third task. In Isaiah 61, the Messiah anoints the disenfranchised and the marginalized to become rebuilders, repairers, priests, and ministers of God in the world. How have we witnessed the disenfranchised and the marginalized rebuild and repair our world, and become priests and ministers of God?
2. Followers of Jesus have been called Christians since the time of the early Church in Antioch. Christians mean "little messiahs". It's an appropriate title for followers of Jesus as we live out our "anointed" lives in faith. Just as Jesus was anointed with the Holy Spirit, Christians are also anointed with the same Spirit. How do we fulfill our lives in the same anointing and in the same messianic task?