

Session 6: Jesus' Ministry & Your Ministry

CATCHING UP

How did the truths you discussed in the last session about resurrection life affect your outlook this week? Did you memorize the verse you selected in the last session?

KEY VERSE

We are God's work of art, created in Christ Jesus for the good works which God has already designated to make up our way of life. (Ephesians 2:10 NJB)

WATCH the video lesson now and take notes (if you wish).

Jesus' Ministry and Your Ministry

We are God's work of art, created in Christ Jesus for the good works which God has already designated to make up our way of life. Ephesians 2:10 NJB

> I tell you the truth, anyone who believes in me will do the same works I have done, and even greater works, because I am going to be with the Father. John 14:12 NLT

The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to release the oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor. Luke 4:18-19 NIV/NKJV

Jesus came to ______ to the poor.

These are people who live with material poverty, moral poverty, or spiritual poverty.

Who do I know that needs the good news?

Jesus came to ______ the brokenhearted.

These are people who are weighed down with disappointment, discouragement, defeat, or despair.

Who do I know that is hurting?

Jesus came to ______ for those who are imprisoned.

These are people who are trapped by their circumstances, addictions, habits, or fears.

Who do I know that feels trapped?

Jesus came to ______ to the blind.

These are people who are blind to the truth about God or about themselves.

Who do I know that is blind to the truth?

Jesus came to ______ the oppressed.

These are people who are picked on, put down, victimized, or taken for granted.

Who do I know that is oppressed?

Jesus wants you to carry on his ministry to the world around you. He wants it to be your way of life.

Discovery Questions

- 1. Read Ephesians 2:10 in your message outline. The Bible says you are "God's work of art." How does that affect your self-perception?
- 2. Ephesians 2:10 also says that God has already designated good works to become "our way of life." What does that mean? How does that happen?
- 3. Look again at the five things Jesus was called to do. Which one resonates most with you? Which is the most challenging for you?
- 4. In John 14:12, Jesus said that we who believe in him will do "even greater works" than he did because he was "going to be with the Father." What do you think Jesus meant by that?

Next Steps

- Think about the people whose names you wrote down. What opportunities for ministry are right in front of you? What do you think Jesus wants you to do? Make a plan to reach out to at least one of those people this week. It could be through a phone call, an email or text, or better yet, a personal visit. Plan what you will do, when you will do it, and how you will do it. Then stick to your plan. Ask a member of your small group to hold you accountable.
- Maintain the practice of memorizing scripture. Try for one new verse each week.
- In prayer
 - Pray for your group's prayer requests.
 - Take a few minutes to thank God for the lessons you have learned through this small group series.
 - Ask God to use you to carry on Jesus' ministry in the world around you.