

# MESSAGE DISCUSSION GUIDE

How to (Really) Help // Week 1 // What Is Poverty?

September 9/10, 2017



## ICEBREAKER

What would be your perfect job?

## KEY SCRIPTURE

**Luke 4:18-19**

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. How would you define poverty?
2. If you had a choice to share Christ in a subdivision filled with million dollar houses or an impoverished rural town, which would you choose and why?
3. After reading Luke 4, Jesus seemed to be saying that poverty involves a lot more than we think it does. We tend to focus on the lack of material possessions or income, but there are emotional, physical, and even spiritual implications. Poverty is not easy to solve. But, we know this is part of our calling as Christ followers.
4. How does someone that is poor define poverty?
5. What four things from the message are we in relationship with?

**6. Read James 1:27.** How can we help? What do we often need to change to best help others in need? How can we get involved?

If we allow God to change our perspective we may be able to better help those that around us. Poverty is not just materially poor. We are all poor. We also need to get involved relationally, not just materially. We need to put ourselves in situations and places where we can build relationships with people. This is the first step in really helping.

*I feel ashamed, humiliated, and worthless. I feel like the garbage people throw away. "Voices of the Poor", Publish 2000*

## PRAYER

Pray that God would open our eyes and ears to his calling. Pray that we see others through his eyes and also pray for wisdom to know how we can help someone best.

## CHALLENGE

Will you allow God to change your perspective? Will you go beyond giving stuff to get to know real people? Can Jesus count on you? What is your reaction when you see someone holding a sign near a busy intersection asking for money? Is giving them money the best solution?