

## **SON OF GOD: THE LIFE OF JESUS IN YOU-SESSION 5 JESUS' MINISTRY AND YOUR MINISTRY**

### **Memory 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)***

### **Opening questions:**

As we reflect on this series, what is one way that your life has been impacted by our consideration of Jesus' baptism, temptation, suffering, death and resurrection? How have you been more aware of what He did for you and that He is for you, as you've gone through your everyday life?

### **I. Introduction:**

- A. Jesus' ministry is not just something that happened back then but something that He planned to continue, to carry on through us as a way of life. The resurrection power of Jesus isn't only to be about something great God did for us or does in us, but also about great things God does through us, as we become the hands and feet of Jesus. Jesus said these shocking words to his disciples:

***"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)***

1. We are not all called to be pastors but we are all called to be ministers; people who do the same kinds of things Jesus did for others. We aren't just to be members of our family or job, but ministers in our family, job, and community. These works were put in us to do before we were born.

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2. One of the main ways God meets our needs is as the result of the overflow of us meeting the needs of others.

### **II. What was the ministry of Jesus that He wants to continue to do through us as part of our new life style? 5 key things in Jesus' own job description.**

***"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)***

A. Jesus came to \_\_\_\_\_  
to the poor.

Jesus treated the most vulnerable as the most valuable. Jesus didn't come to minister to those who were well but those who needed a physician. He didn't come to tell us we should be worthy but that God can accept, forgive, and transform the unworthy. He came to give his best for those who have the least.

1. Who are the poor? There are many kinds of poverty: material, moral, spiritual, and emotional. He primarily came to search for those willing to admit their need for God.
2. Who do you know that needs to hear the good news of what Jesus did?

\_\_\_\_\_  
(names)

B. Jesus came to \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ the  
brokenhearted.

These are people who are weighed down by disappointment, discouragement, rejection, defeat, and loss. "Everybody has a hidden wound somewhere in their life."

Who do I know that is hurting and needs comfort?

Names: \_\_\_\_\_

C. Jesus came to \_\_\_\_\_ for  
those who are imprisoned.

These are people who are trapped by their circumstances, addictions, habits, demonic attack, lies, and torment. One of the biggest prisons is fear. The more we are aware of His presence, the less we are controlled by our fears because *perfect love casts out fear*. Faith isn't a feeling; it is something you do when you're afraid, to face down your fears!

God wants to give "*garments of praise for a spirit of heaviness.*"  
(Isaiah 61:2-3)

Who do you know that feels trapped?

Names \_\_\_\_\_

D. Jesus came to \_\_\_\_\_  
to the blind.

1. God can use us to pray for physical and spiritual sickness and see healing come. A key to healing prayer is to listen to God. A word from the Lord often is a catalyst for the prayer of faith that heals the sick. *"I only do what I see the Father doing."* (John 5:19)
2. This also refers to ministry to people who are blind to the truth about God or something in themselves. All of us have blind spots and can be led off track by the fog of circumstances, hurts, questions, or fears. We are called to go to them, and to *"speak the truth in love."*

True love and friendship is having unconditional love that shows you care, but it is also speaking truth that helps them see and possibly avoid great harm. If you care you will share and help them be aware.

- E. Jesus came to \_\_\_\_\_ the oppressed.  
 These are people who are picked on, put down, victimized, or taken for granted. A true representative of Christ steps in when others step out.

Who do you know that is oppressed?

Names \_\_\_\_\_

### Questions for Discovery and Discussion

1. Have you ever had an experience where you ended up helping yourself the most by focusing on helping others?
2. Of the five things Jesus was called to do. Which one resonates most with you? Which is the most challenging for you?
3. How would you live differently if you really believed that God had created, prepared, and put in you a list of good works, He planned to give you the opportunity to do for Him every day, if you were just tuned into it?
4. Can you give an example of the Holy Spirit moving on your heart or speaking to you about reaching out to someone in need? How did you sense the life of Jesus working through you when that happened?
5. If you are comfortable you can share one way in which you feel that you are in need of one of the ministries of Jesus we've mentioned and ask your group to pray for you about that? Also consider discussing people whose names you wrote down or who you think might need the ministry of Jesus through you. What is one way you might reach out to be the hands and feet of Jesus this week?

Why not end the time praying for them?

**(Answers:** Preach good news, (heal, help, comfort), proclaim freedom, bring recovery of sight, release)