

**2023-24 Aim Check-in**

- Becoming disciples who make disciples, who make disciples.
  - Creating a community of faith that meaningfully engages our community of residence.
1. Since you last met as a H2H group, have you made any movement towards the aims we've set?
  2. How might we as a H2H group help support or encourage you towards these aims?

**Discussion Questions Set #1**

“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)

“Clean the outside of the cup and dish ... inside you are full of greed and wickedness ... as for what is inside you—be generous to the poor, and everything will be clean for you” (Luke 11:39-41).

In sermon, we talked about how our cultural motivation for helping the poor often comes from one of two places:

- A “compassion only” motivation that leads to paternalism and patronizing
  - A “justice only” motivation that leads to great anger and bitterness.
1. When you think of “proclaiming good news to the poor”, what kinds of good news do you envision Christ proclaiming?
  2. What might happen if our engagement with the poor occurs from a compassion-only standpoint? From a justice only motivation?
  3. Discuss, from your perspective, what a balanced and biblical approach to engaging the poor might look like.

**Discussion Questions Set #2**

“After this, Jesus traveled about from one town and village to another, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom of God. The Twelve were with him, and also some women who had been cured of evil spirits and diseases: Mary (called Magdalene) from whom seven demons had come out; Joanna the wife of Chuza, the manager of Herod's household; Susanna; and many others. These women were helping to support them out of their own means.” (Luke 8:1-3)

“All the believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of their possessions was their own, but they shared everything they had. With great power the apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. And God's grace was so powerfully at work in them all that there were no needy persons among them. For from time to time those who owned land or houses sold them, brought the money from the sales and put it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to anyone who had need.” (Acts 4:32-35)

“Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.” (2 Corinthians 9:7-8)

1. Why is it significant that Jesus called together a group of followers from a wide variety of socio-economic backgrounds? Why is it significant that the poor were included in Christ's kingdom right from the very beginning?
2. What does this suggest about the kind of community that Christ desired to create within the church?
3. Discuss the difference between the following two ideas:
  - a. The believers shared everything that they had
  - b. The wealthy believers ensured that the poor believers had enough
4. How might the sort of sharing spoken of in Acts 4:32-35 result in the believers becoming one in heart and mind?
5. Discuss what 2 Corinthians 9:7-8 might suggest about:
  - a. Our process of giving tithes and offerings
  - b. Our ability to abound in every good work