Leader Preparation

1. Take some time to look over these questions ahead of time. Choose the ones that you want to make sure you cover with your group. We have highlighted what we think are **key ideas/questions by bolding them.**
2. Pray for your group and your time together as you prepare. This is so helpful!
3. When meeting online you as the leader will need to be more directive than in person. Don’t be afraid to invite everyone to answer a question, invite them to share by name, and thank them when they finish. The online format requires a little more intentional orchestrating than an in-person group.
4. Try to start the gathering by getting everyone talking at least once to begin. The Hook section is great for this. When in doubt, have people share stories about their past. (How the week was, favorite memories about the topic for the day, etc). This is a great way to help your group continue to get to know one another.
5. Next, look at the Scripture and what it means. We believe Jesus is discipling people through this Word. Get people into the Scriptures and the Scriptures into people!
6. Finally, end with what God is saying to people and how God is inviting them to respond. These aren’t just ideas to know but realities to live in!

Hook - Getting to know one another

* How is everyone doing this week? Add other questions to get to know one another, especially ones related to the topic in the sermon.
* Describe a time you witnessed a rescue mission underway. What was the persons need? How was rescue being brought?
* How did you first learn about the mission or purpose of Jesus? How has your perception of it changed from that first learning?

Book - Scripture

* Read the scripture passages and discuss to understand **what the text is saying**:
* Read Luke 4: 16-22
* What is the setting of this passage? What do we know about the time and place where these events happen?
* What does Jesus state as his mission in this passage?
	+ What would the witnesses in the synagogue be thinking or feeling hearing these words from Jesus?
* What is shown about Jesus in this passage?
* Jesus’ time in the synagogue ends with the people furious at him. (Read Luke 4:23-30). What in his words or actions would have led to people’s anger?

Look - Connections to our world today

* This section focuses on implications about **what this text means** about what’s wrong in the world, about trusting God, about who God is, etc.
* What is shown about God’s heart in the words of Jesus in this passage?
	+ His heart for each of us individually?
	+ His heart for the world?
* What encourages you in studying Jesus’ stated purpose?
* What does this glimpse of God’s heart show about what it means to walk faithfully with Him?
	+ What might make it challenging to join Jesus in this purpose?
* If someone were to ask you “What does this passage mean for me?”, how would you respond?

Took - Personal Application

* This application focuses on **how God is calling us to respond**. This could be personally, as a family, small group, or church. It could be something to believe, to meditate on, to say or do this week.
* Tim asked us to consider:

Our own lives:

- Where are you poor?

- Where are you in prison?

- Where are you blind?

- Where are you oppressed?

- Where are you in exile?

The world around us:

- Who are the poor?

- Who are the imprisoned?

- Who are the blind?

- Who are the oppressed?

- Who are those in exile?

* How might Jesus want to bring rescue into your life at this time?
* How might Jesus want to bring rescue through you into those around you?
* What aspect of Jesus purpose and mission do you feel you need to rest in this week? Re-read Luke 4:18-19. Choose one line from Jesus’ words here to return to. Write that one line as a statement to Jesus (eg: “Jesus, you proclaim good news to the poor”), and post it somewhere you will see it regularly in this week ahead. Each time you do, rest in this truth.

Time of Prayer