

## Group/Individual Study

Series - "Love Does": "Love is Good News to the Poor"

Passages: Luke 4:16-22; Phil.2:5-11; Luke 5:1-11

REFLECT on the message heard on Sunday, 5/6

1. Read Luke 4:16-22. Jesus used the words of an Old Testament prophecy about what the Messiah would be like to announce to the world that He, indeed, was the long awaited Messiah. What do the words of this prophecy tell us about who Jesus is? About what is important to God? About the values of His Kingdom?
2. Read Philippians 2:5-11. What type of "wealth" and privilege did Jesus leave to come down to us in our poverty? How does Jesus express His care to people experiencing material poverty? To people experiencing spiritual poverty? Name as many examples of poverty as you can.
3. Some have called the path that Jesus modeled in Philippians 2:5-11 "descending into greatness." This path of descending into greatness seems to involve holding loosely the "privileges" and "perks" we have in our wealth, and choosing to serve others in their poverty. What can this look like relative to material poverty? Relative to spiritual poverty? Where might Jesus be calling you to come alongside people in poverty of some kind.
4. Read Luke 5:1-11. Being used by God to help others in poverty seems to be done best by the humble ones, who have recognized their own points of poverty. In this passage how did Peter and the rest recognize their own "poverty" apart from Jesus? Their "wealth" in Jesus?
5. How do you think recognizing the poverty that Jesus saves us from affects the *attitude* we have as we come alongside others in their poverty? How does it attack our pride or our sense of being in some way "above" those we are helping? What do you think it communicates to those we help?
6. Is the poverty you are most aware of in your own life more spiritual or material? How can we pray for Jesus to come alongside you in that area of poverty? How can you offer up that area of life to Him with the hope that He will be faithful and good to you there?