

Follow Practices: Good news to the poor

We see throughout scripture God's heart for the poor and marginalized. As the church we are Jesus' hands and feet to a poor and broken world. Use the questions below, in your small group or discipleship group, or in your own personal reflection, to start thinking about how you as an individual and the church as a whole, can be good news to the poor.

PRACTICE – QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION	
1	What are the physical and practical needs you are aware of in your neighbourhood / community? Where are people struggling and suffering?
2	What are the needs of others that tend to most move your heart? What mercy ministries have you seen that have most inspired you?
3	What barriers are there for you personally and for the church to increasing our reach and impact on the poor?
4	If time and resource weren't an issue, what would you dream of the church doing to care for the poor and bring the good news of Jesus to them? What dreams and visions might God want to lay on your heart?
5	What would need to do practically the make the above possible? What would need to change in your life or in the life of the church for ministry to the poor to increase?

6	What personal prejudices or church cultural barriers would we have to address to make sure we were a truly welcoming place for the poor? How do we widen our reach?
7	How important do you think it is to keep the sharing of the gospel central to any ministry to the poor?
8	What next? What are you going to do in response to your reflections above?