

# sent

week one

 TRANSFORMATION  
CHURCH



# Reading:

## **Luke 4:16-21**

He came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up. As usual, he entered the synagogue on the Sabbath day and stood up to read. The scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him, and unrolling the scroll, he found the place where it was written:

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 proclaim release to the captives  
and recovery of sight to the blind,  
to set free the oppressed,  
to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.

He then rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. And the eyes of everyone in the synagogue were fixed on him. He began by saying to them, "Today as you listen, this Scripture has been fulfilled."

## **Isaiah 61:1**

The Spirit of the Lord GOD is on me,  
because the LORD has anointed me  
to bring good news to the poor.  
He has sent me to heal the brokenhearted,  
to proclaim liberty to the captives  
and freedom to the prisoners;

## **Proverbs 31:8-9**

Speak up for those who have no voice, for the justice of all who are dispossessed. Speak up, judge righteously, and defend the cause of the oppressed and needy.

## **Mark 12:41-44**

Sitting across from the temple treasury, he watched how the crowd dropped money into the treasury. Many rich people were putting in large sums. Then a poor widow came and dropped in two tiny coins worth very little. Summoning his disciples, he said to them, "Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others. For they all gave out of their surplus, but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had—all she had to live on."

# Sent to the Poor

**Devotional:** Being poor is often looked down upon and equated with a sinful lifestyle. Perhaps you've been approached by someone asking for money? Or perhaps you've seen someone on the street corner holding a sign asking for help? Did you feel disdain or pity? Did you wonder what may have happened in their life to deserve such a fate? Perhaps you have experienced the judgment of others as you search your own empty pockets to pay for the few groceries you're buying for your family. Being poor can cause shame and hopelessness.

In the Gospel of Mark [12:41-44], Jesus saw a poor widow giving two coins to the temple treasury. While some looked down on her meager gift, He knew that she had given all that she had, and He honored her. In Luke 4:18, Jesus enters the synagogue, opens and reads from the scroll of Isaiah, "The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me, to preach good news to the poor..." Jesus did not shy away from or shun the poor. He moved towards them in love, ready to share the Good News with them. What is that Good News?

Jesus was sent to love **P**eople.  
Jesus was sent to be **O**bedient for us.  
Jesus was sent to **O**btain our forgiveness.  
Jesus was sent to **R**egenerate us.

All of us need this Good News, and all of us have access to it through Jesus. Now, as Jesus' representatives, we are sent to share the Good News with the poor. We are not sent to pity or rescue or hide; we are sent share the Good News of Jesus Christ.

**Prayer:** Jesus, You are the source of life, love, and good news. Thank you for moving towards those who have often been forgotten by the world. Help us to speak up for those who have no voice and to defend the cause of the needy so that You are glorified. Amen.

**Soul-tattoo:** Transformation Church, we are sent to reach the POOR.