

### (1) An Opening THOUGHT

So if the Son sets you free, you are truly free.

- Jesus (John 8:36, NLT)

### (2) Read the TEXT Together

<sup>1</sup> The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is on me,  
because the Lord has anointed me  
to proclaim good news to the poor.  
He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted,  
to proclaim freedom for the captives  
and release from darkness for the prisoners,<sup>[a]</sup>  
<sup>2</sup> to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor  
and the day of vengeance of our God,  
to comfort all who mourn,  
<sup>3</sup> and provide for those who grieve in Zion—  
to bestow on them a crown of beauty  
instead of ashes,  
the oil of joy  
instead of mourning,  
and a garment of praise  
instead of a spirit of despair.  
They will be called oaks of righteousness,  
a planting of the Lord  
for the display of his splendor.

Isaiah 61:1-3 (NIV)

### (3) Key POINTS

- Jesus came to proclaim good news to those who need it and to provide its benefits to those who will receive it.
- Jesus' mission is focused on lifting the hearts and lives of real people.
- Those who are saved by Jesus become displays of his splendour and participants in his mission.

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Do you have questions or comments about this resource?  
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**GROUPS RESOURCE**

A WEEKLY GUIDE TO HELP GROUPS FOLLOW JESUS TOGETHER



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## (4) Looking to the WORD

Read Isaiah 61:1-11.

- What words or phrases especially stand out to you?
- As you think about the life and ministry of Jesus, what are some examples of ways He fulfilled this prophecy?

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## (5) Looking at our WORLD

- What are the ways that you have seen God bringing about his healing, justice and freedom in the world today?
- What part is God calling us to play as followers of Jesus?
- We heard an interview on Sunday with two women who are taking seriously this mission of justice and freedom and help and healing in the city of Edmonton. If you heard the interview, what were you most challenged by? Even if you didn't hear the interview, in what ways might God be calling you to play a part right here in Edmonton?

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## (6) Looking at our LIVES

Jeremy said this on Sunday: *When we mourn and grieve our sin and brokenness and look to Jesus for help and healing, He takes us... **FROM** poor, brokenhearted, those in darkness, captives, prisoners, mourning, grieving, ashes, despair, ruin, devastation, shame, disgrace... **TO** freedom, release, the Lord's favour, comfort, beauty, joy, OAKS of righteousness, displays of God's splendour, rebuilt, renewed, double-portion inheritance, everlasting joy, salvation, righteousness, praise.*

- Talk about how you have experienced this kind of healing in your own life. What are some areas right now where you especially need the freedom and healing that Jesus offers?

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## (7) Looking AHEAD and PRAYING Together

Here are this week's On-Ramps:

- Do you grieve your own sin and brokenness, and are you seeking to turn from it?
- Have you and do you regularly invite Jesus to heal your heart and lift your life?
- Is your heart "inclined to praise" in response to Jesus?
- How and where is God calling you to take part in lifting the hearts and lives of real people?

In what ways might you take action on these? Include this in your prayer time.