

Luke 4:14-21 - ¹⁴ Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and news about him spread through the whole countryside. ¹⁵ He taught in their synagogues, and everyone praised him. ¹⁶ He went to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and on the Sabbath day he went into the synagogue, as was his custom. And he stood up to read. ¹⁷ The scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. Unrolling it, he found the place where it is written: ¹⁸ "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 freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to release the oppressed, ¹⁹ to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor." ²⁰ Then he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant and sat down. The eyes of everyone in the synagogue were fastened on him, ²¹ and he began by saying to them, "Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing."

The patients would first go to triage, where an _____ would be made.

It was prioritizing the limited resources that were available to make the biggest difference _____.

What do you think our priorities are?

How do we determine what the priorities are? What were Jesus'?

Isa 61:1 – The Spirit of the Sovereign LORD is on me, because the LORD has anointed me to preach 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,

Preaching the good news to the poor. Honestly, how active are we in sharing good news with the poor?

Proclaiming freedom for the prisoners. That isn't just prison ministry. That's release for those that are captives of sin.

Gal 3:23-29 - ²³ Before this faith came, we were held prisoners by the law, locked up until faith should be revealed. ²⁴ So the law was put in charge to lead us to Christ that we might be justified by faith. ²⁵ Now that faith has come, we are no longer under the supervision of the law. ²⁶ You are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus, ²⁷ for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. ²⁸ There is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. ²⁹ If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.

Are we actively sharing the Gospel with the lost?

My struggle is, are we too comfortable in our Christianity?

1. Are we true to God's Word?
2. Are people being saved?
3. Are people's priorities changing in accordance with Scripture?
4. Are members developing purposeful relationships with unbelievers?
5. Are members excited about bringing unchurched friends to church here?
6. Do guests feel welcomed?
7. Are new members easily assimilated into the life of the church?

8. Are people developing quality friendships inside the church?
9. Are we identifying the leadership?
10. Are we honestly re-evaluating the effectiveness of our ministries in light of our mission?

Will you purpose with me, to help me with this? Will you pray for this church and its ministries? Will you pray that God will bring the lost to us, and that He'll use you to do it?

The personal evaluation questions go along with the ones for the church:

1. Am I in God's will?
2. What am I putting my energies into?
3. Are my priorities in line with God's Word?
4. Am I developing purposeful relationships with unbelievers?
5. Am I welcoming to guests?
6. Am I encouraging/helping others to be assimilated into the life of this church?
7. Am I developing NEW friendships inside the church?
8. Am I developing as a leader and helping others to do the same?
9. Does my life in the church reflect the mission of the church? (What is that?)
10. Who would God have me pouring my life into right now?

Mt. 11:2-5 – When John heard in prison what Christ was doing, he sent his disciples to ask him, “Are you the one who was to come, or should we expect someone else?” Jesus replied, “Go back and report to John what you hear and see: The blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cured, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is preached to the poor.”

Matt 4:23 - Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the good news of the kingdom, and healing every disease and sickness among the people.

Answers: assessment; possible

For Study this week:

Mon - Read Luke 4:14-21. Ask God to show you how you can help do the things that Jesus lifts up from Isaiah. Look at the first 2 Priority Questions for the Church and for you personally. How are you doing?

Tue - Read Galatians 3:23-29. What does it mean “locked up until faith should be revealed?” Look at priority questions 3 and 4 for the Church and for you. How are you doing?

Wed - Read Matthew 11:2-5. Do you ever wonder if Jesus was the one? Can you see how He fulfilled the Scriptures? Look at priority questions 5 and 6 for the Church and for you. How are you doing?

Thu – Read Matthew 4:23. How do you see Jesus moving in the world now? Look at priority questions 7 and 8. How are you doing?

Fri – Reread Luke 4:14-21. Notice who's power Jesus was operating in in verse 14. Recognize that that is the same power that indwells you, if you've accepted Jesus as your Lord and Savior. Look at priority questions 8 and 9 for the Church and for you. How are you doing?

Sat – Pray thru the priority questions, and ask God to help us as a Church to meet the ones for the Church, and to help you to meet those for an individual.