

## The Mission of Christ Small Group Guide

**Warm-up Question:** (Choose one, make up your own, or skip this part all together, depending upon the nature of your group.)

1. What's a saying or piece of wisdom you remember from growing up that still resonates with you today?
2. If you could create a new Olympic sport, what would it be? How would you train for it, and who would be your biggest competitor?

**Read the following passages:** Isaiah 61:1-3 and Luke 4:14-20.

**Summary of Key Passage:** In Isaiah 61:1-3 and Luke 4:14-20, we see the mission of Christ clearly laid out. The Spirit of the Lord was upon Jesus, anointing Him to bring good news to the poor, heal the brokenhearted, proclaim freedom to the captives, and release prisoners from darkness. This mission wasn't just about physical healing or freeing people from earthly burdens—it was about the complete restoration of our relationship with God, aligning us with His purpose and drawing us into His eternal kingdom. Jesus' mission is not only a reflection of God's heart for the lost and broken but also a call to action for us, as His followers, to continue this mission empowered by the same Spirit.

**Questions for Discussion (Choose several that are relevant for your group):**

### Focus on Christ's Mission

1. **Read Isaiah 61:1-3.** What does this passage reveal about whom Jesus came for and why?
2. When you think about the focus of Christ's mission, do you see yourself as someone He came for? How does understanding that Christ's mission included you change the way you view your own worth and purpose?
3. Read Romans 5:8. How does knowing that Christ died for you while you were still a sinner affect your understanding of His focus on you in His mission? Despite being unworthy because of sin, how does this sacrificial love reshape the way you see your identity and purpose in God's plan?

### Function of Christ's Mission

4. **Read Luke 4:18-19 and Acts 10:38.** Jesus' mission wasn't just to bring a message but to enact change—freedom for captives, sight for the blind, and release for the oppressed. Reflect on areas in your life where you feel captive or bound. How does understanding the function of Christ's mission—bringing freedom—challenge you to seek His help and allow Him to transform those areas?

5. **Read Psalm 107:13-22.** When you consider how Christ's mission brings freedom, how are you being called to testify about the ways He has delivered you from areas of captivity? What impact could sharing your story of God's deliverance have on others who are still bound, and how can you be more intentional in proclaiming His work in your life?

### **Fulfillment in Christ's Mission**

6. **Read Isaiah 61:3 and 2 Corinthians 5:17.** Christ's mission is fulfilled in the restoration of righteousness—turning ashes into beauty, mourning into joy, and despair into praise. Do you struggle to accept that Christ's work is complete and that you are a new creation in Him? What might be holding you back from fully embracing the righteousness and new life He offers?
7. **Reflect on Romans 5:1.** True freedom is not just about being set free from sin, but about being restored to righteousness and right standing with God. How does understanding this deeper aspect of restoration change the way you view your relationship with God? Are there areas in your life where you need to embrace this restoration more fully?

### **Reflection and Action**

8. **What does it look like for you to live out the focus, function, and fulfillment of Christ's mission in your daily life?** What is one practical step you can take this week to embody these aspects of Christ's mission in your interactions, prayers, or personal time with God?

### **Pray**