

Beauty For Ashes: The Integral Mission
Isaiah 61, Luke 4:17-21
September 27, 2020

WARM-UP QUESTIONS:

1. What comes to mind when you hear the phrase, “separation of church and state”? How does this impact or affect the activities of the church in our community and nation?
2. Pastor Jason says that this is a critical time for the Church and its engagement in culture. How do you see the Church influencing culture? How is the Church neglecting other aspects? What are the possible and real consequences of these decisions and choices?

REFLECTION QUESTIONS:

1. Once again read through the entire chapter of Isaiah 61 several times. What different words stand out? What feelings come up? Pay attention to how these deepen this reflection time.
2. Robert Chao Romero describes the concept of “Integral Mission” - where verbal proclamation and embodiment are the two pillars of the Gospel. What Bible passage(s) does this remind you of? Why would Romero feel the need to re-emphasize this concept in our context today?
3. The Isaiah passage relates to the concept of Jubilee (take time to read about what this refers to). Does Jubilee have any place in our society? Should Christians take it seriously? What might this look like in practice and relationships?

APPLICATION QUESTIONS:

1. Pastor Jason suggests that these difficult times are an opportunity and invitation from God to proclaim and embody the Gospel to those who are in need. What might proclaiming look like in your current situation - at home, work, in your neighborhood? What about embodiment? Which of these are temporary adjustments, and which do you think will have more lasting/permanent effect on your relationship to the Gospel?
2. As you think about our church, how would you evaluate our expressions of gospel proclamation and embodiment? What are some recent examples? What might be some divine opportunities that would open the new doors for proclamation or embodiment?