

## MARKS OF MISSION SERIES: CARING FOR THE POOR 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2021

'Tell, teach, tend, transform, treasure'

The third mark of mission is 'to respond to human need by loving service'.

### Readings:

Luke 4: 18-19 and Luke 10: 25-37

**Icebreaker:** what do you think of when you hear the word 'mission'?

**Discussion Point 1:** Thinking of the parable of the Good Samaritan, can you think of instances (small or significant) in your own life when:

- a) you have been like the priest, and passed by on the other side?
- b) you have been like the Good Samaritan and stopped to help
- c) you've been in need of help and someone has noticed and responded?

Reflect on these examples using the APP model

1 Awareness	4 Action
2 Pity/Passion	5 Persistence/Perseverance
3 Preparedness (how well equipped, trained, resourced, free of other constraints)	6 Prayer

### Discussion Point 2

The Jews and the Samaritans had a long history of enmity. Who would you find it most difficult to help?

### Discussion Point 3

Thinking about local people in need, what tugs most at your heart strings? Where are you currently involved? How has that involvement affected you? What are you best equipped to offer (eg time/money/expertise/prayer)? Do you feel called to do or train to do something about local poverty? Examples of organisations include CAP, Beatitudes, Besom, Foodbank, Community Fridge but there are many more and we can also help people directly! Are you aware of gaps that you as an individual or we as a church could address?

### Discussion Point 4

Thinking more widely about people in need, which areas of the world/types of need tug most at your heart strings? Which charities are you currently involved with? How has that involvement affected you? What are you best equipped to offer (eg money/time/ awareness and advocacy/prayer)? Do you feel called to be more involved or to get involved with something new? Examples of organisations include World Church partners, Christian Aid, Tear Fund and many others.

And finally – reread Luke 4:18-19