

# Connect Group Notes

Sermon: What does God want for the world?

Reading: Luke 4: 14-30

Date: 8th September 2024 (AM)

## Introduction

*Have you had any answers to prayer in the last week? Any opportunities to talk to someone about the Lord? Any encouragements from your Bible reading? Spend a few minutes sharing personal prayer requests and pray for one another.*

## Bible Study

*[Leaders, no questions suite every small group. Please adapt them to your own group]*

1. Read Isaiah 61. What hopes might Isaiah's first hearers have had from this prophecy? In what ways does Jesus begin to fulfil these hopes?
2. How does this passage emphasise Jesus' dependence on the Holy Spirit (v.1, 14, 18)? How might this serve as an encouragement and reminder to us when we're tempted to work in our own strength?
3. *"No prophet is without honour in his hometown"* - Do you think it's harder to share the gospel with those close to us (eg. family, close friends)? How might we encourage one another in this?
4. Jesus reminds and challenges those in Nazareth that God's grace is for all peoples - you might want to take a close look at Zarephath (1 Kings 17) and Naaman (2 Kings 5). How might this challenge our own views of mission and evangelism both near and far?
5. Consider that ultimate future hope of Isaiah 61 (ie. the New Creation). Where in the Bible might we see Jesus' manifesto more fully and completely realised? How will this hope shape your interactions this week?

## Prayer

What is one lesson, challenge or encouragement you will take away from this passage? Share it with the rest of the group and pray about it together.