



GROUP QUESTIONS FOR JUNE 14

Series: *True Worship*

Worship and Action

Icebreakers!

1. What humanitarian aid groups do you respect the most, and why?
2. Have you ever had a major need met outside your ability? If you're open to sharing, how did you ask for God's help for it, and how did you see God meet your need?

Growing Together

3. Why would someone feed the hungry, shelter the homeless, and more—but ask you *not* to share about Jesus with those in need? Why might people be open to humanitarian aid, but resist making Jesus Christ known?
4. Can a church get so caught up in doing good in a community that they neglect to make Jesus Christ known? If so, how?
5. Can a church get so caught up in proclaiming salvation through Jesus that they neglect to love their neighbors? If so, how?
6. How did care for people's practical needs show up both in Jesus' teaching, and in His actions? Did this care flow naturally, or was it out of step with His cross-mission?
7. How did Jesus make those around Him feel safe and provided for? How did they know they could trust Him to make fair judgments? See *Luke 12:13-15 • Matt. 22:15-17!*
8. Is there a right ratio for Christians and churches to aim for between mercy ministry and calling people to faith? If so, how do you find it? If not, why not?
9. How does the Bible strongly emphasize the call to salvation and the call to serve people in need, both in Jesus' name?
10. **From the message this Sunday: What questions do you have? What encouraged you? What challenged you? Where did you see the Gospel?**

Head, Heart, and Hands

11. If this topic has revealed a split in your thinking about worship, what led to that separation? How does a singleminded focus on the Bible retrain our thinking on justice?
12. What will rebuild in us a heart like God's for righteousness in our world: in calling people to faith in Jesus *and* in providing for others' needs besides our own?
13. What will you commit to *do* to live like the Good Samaritan that Jesus gave us as our example—to *prove to be a neighbor* to those in need?

Leviticus 19:18

You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against the sons of your own people, **but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the LORD.**

Proverbs 14:31

Whoever oppresses a poor man insults his Maker, but he who is generous to the needy honors him.

Amos 5:23-24

Take away from me the noise of your songs; to the melody of your harps I will not listen. But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

Micah 6:7-8

“Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?”

He has told you, O man, what is good; and **what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?**

Matthew 9:11-13

[The Pharisees] said to his disciples, “Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?” But when he heard it, he said, “Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. Go and learn what this means: **‘I desire mercy, and not sacrifice.’** For I came not to call the righteous, but sinners.”

Matthew 23:23-24

“Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you tithe mint and dill and cumin, **and have neglected the weightier matters** of the law: justice and mercy and faithfulness. **These you ought to have done, without neglecting the others.”**

Matthew 25:40

And the King will answer them, ‘Truly, I say to you, **as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.’**

Luke 10:25-37

A lawyer stood up to put [Jesus] to the test, saying, **“Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?”** He said to him, “What is written in the Law? How do you read it?” And he answered, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind, **and your neighbor as yourself.”** And he said to him, “You have answered correctly; do this, and you will live.”

But he, desiring to justify himself, said to Jesus, **“And who is my neighbor?”** Jesus replied, “A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho ... **Which of these three ... proved to be a neighbor** to the man who fell among the robbers?” He said, **“The one who showed him mercy.”** And Jesus said to him, **“You go, and do likewise.”**

Galatians 2:6-10

When they saw that I had been entrusted with the gospel ... [and] perceived the grace that was given to me, they gave the right hand of fellowship to Barnabas and me ... **Only, they asked us to remember the poor,** the very thing I was eager to do.

James 1:27

Religion that is pure and undefiled before God the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world.

James 2:15-17

If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, **and one of you says to them, “Go in peace, be warmed and filled,” without giving them the things needed for the body, what good is that? So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.**