

Finishing the Task

August 17, 2025

Memory Verse: Acts 10:38 (NKJV) – 24:00

"...God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him."

John 17:18 (MSG) – *"In the same way that you gave me a mission in the world, I give them a mission in the world."*

Our Task – 01:22

Bring God's P.E.A.C.E. into the lives of people who need it most.

Matthew 10:11-13 (NKJV) "Now whatever city or town you enter, inquire who in it is worthy, and stay there till you go out. And when you go into a household, greet it. If the household is worthy, let your peace come upon it. But if it is not worthy, let your peace return to you."

Letter	Mission Focus	Description
P	Proclaim the Good News	Evangelism – Speak up, speak out, speak it
E	Educate Believers	Discipleship – Grows people
A	Alleviate Suffering	The Task of Ministry
C	Continuous Prayer	Worship
E	Establish Churches	Fellowship

Alleviate Suffering – 06:07

Jesus' First Sermon

Luke 4:18-19 (NKJV) – *"The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because He has anointed Me to preach the gospel to the poor..."*

Poverty is Painful

Three types of poverty: *Spiritual, Physical and Relational*

- ◆ Lose Vision → Lose Hope
- ◆ We are open to God when in pain
- ◆ **When we serve, we create bridges of hope and healing**

John 20:21 (NKJV) – *"As the Father has sent Me, I also send you."*

How Did God Send Jesus? – 20:30

1. He Sent Jesus Anointed for Ministry

Acts: 10:38 NKJV

- *Ministry means to serve*
- We are called to live on mission

2. He Sent Jesus to Love People

- John 3:16 - “God so loved the world He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him will have eternal life.”
- John 13:34-35 (NKJV) – “Love one another as I have loved you; this shows you are My disciples.”
Biblical Love *is not based on emotions but on serving*

The Heart of Jesus’ Ministry – 31:35

- **The Great Commandment** (Matthew 22:36-40 NLT)
- *Love your neighbor = Ministry* (Luke 10:29 NLT)

Oikos - a group of eight to fifteen people with whom you share life most closely, your sphere of greatest influence

Who is my Neighbor? – 33:01

Parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:33-37):

- Jesus asks: “So which of these three do you think was neighbor to him who fell among the thieves?”
- The half-dead person is our neighbor

Three Aspects of Ministry – 36:26

1. **The Ministry of Being Present**
 - Simply showing up for people in their pain
2. **The Ministry of Serving Needs**
 - Practical help that meets real needs
3. **The Ministry of Generosity**
 - Giving time, resources, and compassion

Matthew 9:36-38 (NKJV) – Jesus saw the crowds, had compassion, and said the harvest is plentiful but the workers are few.

Key Takeaway:

We are sent like Jesus — anointed, serving, and loving. When we alleviate suffering, we open the door for the Gospel and bring God’s peace to people in need.

Discussion Questions

1. Why do you think Jesus’ first sermon focused on alleviating suffering?
2. How can pain and suffering open people’s hearts to God?
3. What practical needs in your **Oikos** (circle of influence) can you help meet right now?