

WEEK 4 – *Go and Do Likewise*

Go and Do Likewise

Over the last 3 sessions you've had the opportunity to see that we are never more like Christ than when we are serving. The resurrection of Jesus Christ established his Kingdom here on earth, and it's our job as citizens to continue building the Kingdom through the power of the Holy Spirit. When we do the work of Kingdom building, we bring restoration here and now.

Restoration in our own lives
Restoration of our relationships.
Restoration in creation.
And restoration with the King.

So, what exactly does it mean to *go and do likewise*? For some of you it will mean going back to serve your family, for others it will mean stepping outside your sphere of influence. For all of us, the body of Christ, it means stepping outside our boundaries and borders.

Read James 2:14-18

In this passage, it's clear that the evidence of our faith is works. It's a good practice to ask yourself, "what evidence do others see of your faith?"

Faith leads to works. And it's helpful to note that every believer is in process, so our works look different at every stage. Think of the chores we give our children. We would not ask a 4-year-old to mow the lawn, but we could ask him to pick up his toys. But as he matures, we expect his work to mature. The same goes for our faith. As believers mature, so will the works our faith produces.

Read Matthew 5:13-16

We are instructed to let our light shine so others may taste and see that he is good. When we are living a Kingdom life, we are an angled mirror that reflects the King to the rest of creation. Jesus was salt and light. And as followers of Jesus, we get to be like our King bringing depth and life to this world. But in order to do that, we need to examine our current life and look to the Kingdom life we are called to live.

Pause to allow for personal reflection

How has your faith grown or matured?

What evidence might others see of your faith?

Discussion

1. Take time to share your personal reflection.

We are going to take time to rewatch the *What is Poverty* video. As we do, please pay attention to what jumps out to you. ([Link to Video](#))

2. What thoughts did the video prompt?

These past few weeks have been building up to this moment - it's time for your group to *Go and Do Likewise* by selecting a local partner and scheduling time to serve together. Remember, we are never more like Christ than when we are serving, and Christ himself modeled the values of his Kingdom by serving with love, mercy and justice.

Northview partners with local organizations that align with our mission in helping connect with people in three focused areas: food insecurity, education, and at-risk youth and families.

As a group, spend time getting to know three of Northview's local partners. Read through each description and praise God for the Kingdom impact that is happening through the local partner's ministry.

- [Hands of Hope](#) - Hands of Hope's mission is to uniquely and deeply love children at home and around the world. Hands of Hope places a high value on going deep to change the trajectory of a child's life. They educate on God's heart for orphans and vulnerable children, motivate individuals to get involved, and support those who do. Indiana is in a foster care crisis with the second-highest rate of child maltreatment in the nation and the highest number of children in the foster system compared to neighboring states. The numbers are overwhelming, but together we can change the future one child at a time. Everyone can do something to bring hope and love into their lives.
 - What would it be like to experience this type of poverty?
- [SAWS](#) - SAWS© (Servant's At Work, Inc.) is a faith-based nonprofit organization dedicated to providing freedom to low-income, permanently disabled individuals through the construction of wheelchair ramps to the exterior of the home. Ramps serve as their gateways to the world, re-opening the possibilities of connecting with neighbors and the larger community while providing independence and dignity. *No construction experience needed.*
 - What would it be like to experience this type of poverty?
- [Yellow Bags](#) - Many families in our communities struggle with food insecurity, meaning they don't know where their next meal will come from. It is our desire to be a part of

the solution in eradicating hunger. The Good Neighbor Bags Initiative at Northview seeks to meet the hunger needs in our communities through relationships with community partners who minister directly to those in need.

- What would it be like to experience this type of poverty?
3. Which ministry stirred your heart the most? Why?
 4. What could this life group do to help alleviate poverty in one of these areas?

Your next steps as a group

- Discuss which partner ministry stands out and why.
- Which partner's serving opportunity aligns with the group's stage of life and abilities?
Click the links above for more details about available opportunities.
- Get out the calendar and decide on a time that works for most of the group.
- Schedule your serving time [here](#) or through the partner's link above.
- Pray for the ministry partner that your group has chosen. Pray that your heart will be prepared for all the Holy Spirit wants to do in and through you.

Go and do likewise, church.