



Scripture | Matthew 26:6-11, Deuteronomy 15:1-11

Ice Breaker | 1. Who is the most generous person you know?

Going Deeper |

1. What was something that stood out, or you found challenging to you from Sunday?
2. How would you define poverty?
3. Why do you think some people experience poverty?
4. Read Matthew 26:6-11
5. As the events in this passage unfold, Jesus tells his disciples that they will always have poor with them. Before Sunday, what did you think Jesus meant by this statement?
6. If the poor will always be with us as Jesus says, why would we try to alleviate poverty or help the homeless?
7. Read Deuteronomy 15:1-11
8. On Sunday, Rob shared that when Jesus made the statement that the poor will always be with them, he was applying a direct quote to this passage in Deuteronomy. After reading the passage, does your perspective of “the poor will always be with you” change at all? How so?
9. Deuteronomy 15:1-11 speaks about canceling debts. What attitude, behaviour, and theology is Moses trying to teach Israel? How is each of these three related?
10. In verse 4, Moses says there should be no poor among the people, but then in verse 11 says there will always be poor. Why do you think that is? How do you make sense of this?
11. Why should there be no poor amongst us? (verse 4)
12. On Sunday, Rob shared that there is no evidence that the people of Israel ever followed the instructions on canceling debts. Why do you think they may have never practiced this instruction?
13. Deuteronomy tells us to be openhanded to the poor in our land. What does that mean? How can we be openhanded to the poor?
14. Often when we talk about helping the poor, usually, it means giving money to an organization. But not all organizations are as effective in addressing poverty holistically. On Sunday, we had Mizpah, a former compassion Canada sponsor child, join us to share how being a sponsor child changed her life. What did you learn from her and how can you apply it in helping the poor?

