## What We Believe



In Jesus' first public teaching engagement he opened the scrolls to Isaiah 61 and read:

<sup>1</sup>The Spirit of the Lord GOD is on Me, because the LORD has anointed Me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent Me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and freedom to the prisoners, <sup>2</sup>to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor...

Then, he rolled the scroll back up and proclaimed, "Today this Scripture is fulfilled in your hearing." (Luke 4:21b). From that point forward, Jesus performed incredibly supernatural signs and wonders demonstrating that he was the long-awaited Messiah and King in the line of David who would establish the Kingdom of God.

But Jesus is not of this world and his Kingdom is not of this world. He did not come with military might nor did he use his supernational power to subjugate all nations before him. His Kingdom is upside down wherein the least are the greatest and the first are the last. He came in humility and obedience to God – his Father. Although Jesus is God in his divine nature and being clothe in human likeness, he did not strive for equality with God. In obedience, he became the perfect Passover lamb so that all who accept him as the Messiah are passed over from God's Day of Wrath (Phil 2:6-11, Isaiah 61:2b).

After his death and resurrection, he sent his Holy Spirit to dwell in hearts of his disciples – starting on the day of Pentecost (Acts 2) through today. By his indwelling Spirit within us we become his temple – the overlap between heaven and earth (1 Cor 6:9). By his indwelling Spirit, we become his royal priesthood (Isaiah 61:6, 1 Pet 2:9) and function as the new humanity – a people with God's laws written on our hearts (Jere 31:33). This is the new covenant between God and humanity established through Jesus' sacrificial love demonstrated by his obedience to suffer a shameful death on a Roman cross (Passover) and by his resurrection which is the proof and the hope of our eternal resurrection (1Cor 15:12-38).

This is the gospel that we proclaim at Isaiah 61 Life Ministries International. We set the eyes of our heart on Jesus and like a good disciple, we strive to become like our master; to become like Jesus – loving sacrificially and accepting one another even in all our imperfections, forgiving as we have been forgiven and serving his noble purposes in humility and obedience.

Therefore, we strive to continue in Jesus' mission. To make disciples of all nations not through power, might and subjugation but with humble servitude. Helping one another through the power of his Holy Spirit to be healed of all our brokenness. To understand who we are in Christ and the authority we have in him to break the lies of enemy spirits, to set captives free from shame, guilt and fear. To understand what it means to be in unity with Jesus and the Father through his Holy Spirit. To know that we are loved, accepted and forgiven.

## Isaiah 61

## What We Believe

We also recognize that Jesus was the whole package. Jesus alone had all the gifts and the fullness of wisdom embodied completely and in perfect unity with God the Father. On the other hand, we are just one part of the body of Christ. No single individual possesses all the gifts and all the wisdom of God. Jesus calls us into partnership and unity with him and with one another. We recognize that we must be dependent upon Jesus but also on one another. We recognize that God is the creator of all things and that science is also a part of the discovery of the wisdom of God. Our team members and partners at Isaiah 61 Life Ministries International accept science and the knowledge that we gain from it – we simply do not elevate it above faith in Jesus. We are careful in not allowing it to become an idol. That said, we will partner with health care professionals who in a like manner submit to the Jesus in humility to help bring healing and transformation to those in need.