

042824

## The Mission of Jesus

Luke 4:14-22

Jim Martin



### Background

Jesus asserted to Peter that the gates of hell would not prevail against his church. But what does this mean? And perhaps more importantly, what does it look like when the church of Jesus comes up against those gates? Guest speaker Jim Martin will offer some perspective from his 16 years with International Justice Mission. Jim will share faithfully from the scriptures, and offer inspiring stories of what it looks like when the church steps up to protect people in poverty from violence.

### Sermon Text: *Luke 4:14-22 (NIV)*

*14 Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and reports about him began to spread throughout the surrounding region. 15 He taught in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.*

*16 When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, 17 and they handed him the scroll of the prophet Isaiah. Unrolling the scroll, he found the passage where it is written:*

*18 "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring the good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to prisoners and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, 19 and to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."*

*20 Then he rolled up the scroll, returned it to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed intently on him.*

*21 Then he began by saying to them, "Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing." 22 All present spoke highly of him and were amazed at the gracious words that flowed from his lips. They also asked, "Is this not the son of Joseph?"*

## Discussion Questions

### 1. Preparation

- a. What is one thing you hoped to talk about today/tonight?

### 2. Sunday questions

- a. What is the best thing you heard on Sunday?
- b. What question(s) did you come away with from the sermon?
- c. When you think of “justice” what is the first thing that comes to mind?
- d. Where are you now inspired to “get off the sidelines” and get involved in the justice mission of Jesus (whether with IJM or CityTeam or Liberia or RSCP or ...)?
- e. Write down your prayer –

*“For good news to be brought to the poor,  
For release to the captives to be proclaimed,  
For the oppressed to go free,”*

And for *“justice to roll down like waters”* (Amos 5:24)