- 1. Launchers: How do you think about allegiance?
- 2. Worship God by reading and enjoying Philippians 2:5-11.
- 3. Sermon Reflection: Becoming A Little One, Mark 10:13-31

JESUS VS. THE STATUS QUO

- Who is Jesus with, and why?
- Do you respect Jesus for his gentle and humble heart? Why?

DISTORTED & DISHEARTENED - What competes for our attention and affection?

- How have you been deceived and hoped that external obedience or wealth will satisfy your deepest needs?
- Tim said, "to love created things more than our creator is actually poverty as we settle for infinitely Less than all the Lord has and offers to us". How have you found that to be true?
- Read the following quotes and react to each
 - o Tertullian, 3rd century church father: "Nothing that is God's is obtainable by money"
 - o Sir Roger L'Estrange: "Whoever serves God for money will serve the Devil for better wages."
 - William Stringfellow, Episcopal writer: "Where money is an idol, to be poor is a sin"

THE BEAUTY OF BEING LOW - How does the Gospel change our perspective on humility?

- What is difficult for you? Impossible?
- Now, like a child bring your "impossibles" to our <u>ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE GOD</u>!
- Read and React to this quote. Sally Lloyd-Jones, <u>The Jesus Storybook Bible</u>: "All Naaman needed was nothing. But it was the one thing Naaman didn't have."

4. Kingdom Centered Prayer: You can pray with us

- 1. Praise the LORD for His inherent humility and generosity. Worship Him, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit for giving to us freely of His riches and welcoming us into His family and home.
- 2. How have you lived as if this world counts for everything and as if God counts for little or nothing? Confess your foolishness and rebellion to Jesus asking Him to forgive you and to change your perspective.
- 3. Give thanks to Jesus for becoming poor in order that those who believe in Him would be made rich. And thank Him that those who have made themselves rich in rebellion against Him will be *stripped of every last penny*.
- 4. Who do you know that lives intoxicated with the riches of this world and numb to God? Pray for them asking the Lord to open their eyes and love them just as He loved the rich young ruler.
- 5. Ask the Holy Spirit to give you wisdom and insight into how Jesus views the things of this world. Pray for such joy in the Lord that He offers Himself to us and that He claims us as belonging to Him.

5. Mission: Christians look out for the interests of others. Read Phil. 2:3-4

On mission: the mercy Jesus shows us changes how we relate to even the lowest in our world. No one is treated as irrelevant, especially children.

- Close your eyes and think of who you will get to be with this week.
- Plan now to serve, serve, serve. Help them. Be helpful. Look for opportunities to serve.
- Pray for them asking God to give you a sense of their interests and aspirations.
 - O What do they want?
 - O What are they aspiring to attain or become?
- When you are with them.
 - o Pay attention to them. Listen to them. Ask them questions. Get the details.
 - o Encourage them. Connect with them.
 - o Hope with them.
 - o Bless them.
 - o Tell them you love them.