



These Digging Deeper questions can be used the week following the Sunday message. You can use these questions for personal growth and development, or as a guide for your family or Connect Group discussions.

Message Recap:

Read Mark 1:1 and 1 John 1:1

Jesus was the Good News that people desperately needed, and because they could see and touch it, they believed. People today can still see and hear and touch the Gospel, but it must happen through *us*. The church today has been dying for a long time because we aren't willing to be the hands and feet of Jesus in a personal way. If we will, then just in Jesus' time, the world will see love revealed through grace – something they don't fully understand just how much they need. Also, just as Jesus did, we must seek out and meet needs where they are. Jesus gave sight to the blind, he fed the hungry, and he made the lame to walk. If we are to be effective, we must meet people at their needs, and show them Jesus through our actions.

Pray

Lord, help us to be the good news to the world around us that so desperately needs it, but often doesn't see or hear it because your church today is passive and silent. Lord, please help us to be silent no longer; please help us to get up and be the difference to the people around us so that they can see you through it all. We know that we have a lot of work to do. Give us the strength and courage to be who you called us to be. Help us not to turn away from needs, but to actively seek out and meet them no matter what.

Digging Deeper

Getting Started

- What is one time earlier in your life when you got some really good news that made a memorable impact on you?
- When was the last time that you got to bring some good news to someone else?

Digging Deeper

1. When was the last time that you revealed God's Good News to someone else?
2. Why do you think that the church today spends so much time trying to talk about the Good News, and not enough time **BEING** the Good News?
3. What are a couple practical ways to meet the most basic, common needs in our local areas (and where)?
4. Not everyone has obvious needs, such as hunger or shelter, so what are some things that might help you to figure out what people you meet/know really need?
5. Read John 15:9 and John 20:21. Jesus was sent by the Father in love, and so we also have been sent. So, the question is then, where are you sent (where do you spend your time)?
6. Think of one or two specific people in your life who are broken and in need of God's saving grace. How can you meet their needs in a practical way?

Living Jesus

Jesus was essential to God's plan, because in all his infinite being, people could never understand his love, and in fact the religious leaders of Jesus' time were totally missing the point. Jesus was sent in order to translate an infinite God to the world in real, practical ways that it could understand. And Jesus said we are sent the same as him. Therefore, it stands to reason that our job is to continue to translate God's love in ways that make sense to people and get them intrigued enough to stop and take a look. We've been missing the mark for so long, just as they did in Jesus' time. Millions have gone to Hell because the church has been asleep, and millions more will if we don't wake up and start **BEING** the translation of God's love so that people can understand. It's time for **you** to step up and be Jesus to the world around you. So, how are you going to do that?

What's Your Story?

What can you do this week to translate God's love to someone who needs it? How can you *be* the Good News? Encourage others by sharing your story!

>> **Go to SevernRunner.info and choose the Stories tile. Then follow the link provided to share your own story; we will even connect you with a writer to help you tell your Jesus story.**

Share Your Experience on Social Media This Week #SevernRun #Extraordinary