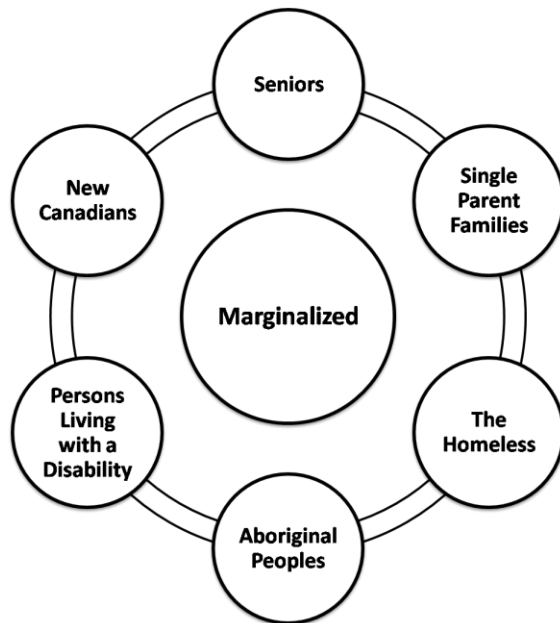


Live the Message

Dr. Rick Tobias
Yonge Street Mission

NOTES

- There are 6 groups of marginalized people that consistently appear in poverty studies at the national, regional, city and municipal levels.
- Focusing our efforts at sites to support a specific group (anchor cause) together will increase our knowledge, expertise, relationships, and response where there are great needs.
- How can we as The Meeting House family organize ourselves to be fully committed and equipped to serving the marginalized in our communities?



For more information visit:

- Yonge Street Mission – ysm.ca
- Mission 2 – themeetinghouse.ca/mission2
- Mennonite Central Committee – mcc.org
- Africa and The Meeting House
 - africa.themeetinghouse.ca
 - connectingpeoples.org

HOME CHURCH QUESTIONS

Warming Up...

1. Read this quote from Simple Spirituality (Christopher L. Heuertz). “In a world of arrogance, we are for humility. In a world of individualism, we are for community. In a world of excess, we are for simplicity. In a world of power, we are for submission. In a world of triumphalism, we are for brokenness.” How does building relationship with, and serving the poor model humility, community, simplicity, submission and brokenness. How are you and your Home Church working on these things?

Look to the Book...

2. Take some time to reflect on the message. Does anything stand out to you, surprise you, or confuse you? Discuss together.
3. Together, identify a number of places in scripture that speak of God's heart to help the poor, to defend those without a voice, to address injustice, and his desire and plan to use his people to serve others. Take time to read the passages together using different translations. (If you're stuck, try reading: **Psalm 35:10, Isaiah 1:13-17, Isaiah 58:3-12, James 1:26,27, Mark 12:28-31, Galatians 2:10**) A) Discuss what common themes occur throughout. B) What words or images are used to describe helping “the poor”?
4. Read **Philippians 2:1-11**. Discuss the passage, sharing what stands out to you the most. What are some qualities the passage points out that we must have to serve others well? How does Christ's example of being the ultimate servant help us understand how to build relationships with and serve the poor?

So What? ...

5. Who do you think are the most marginalized group(s) in your community/city/region (seniors, new Canadians, aboriginal peoples, persons living with a disability, single parents, the homeless)? Why?
6. What is one thing you and/or your Home Church is doing to serve where the need is greatest in your community? How are you building relationships with those who are marginalized? Anything you can do this month to improve? What will the challenges be? Brainstorm together on what your next steps will be.
7. Take time to pray for The Meeting House, that we as a church community will become more aware of the people and places in our communities that are the most marginalized. Pray for your Home Church to become excited about moving forward into new opportunities of learning, serving and building relationship with “the poor” rather than doing things that keep us in our comfort zone.
8. Pray that God would use our new service times to bring more people to our services to hear the message and experience His love.