



Part 2: God's Heart for the Poor

Micah 6:8
Ephesians 2:8-9

CONCLUSION – Raging Against the Machine

Additional Resources:

- Woodland Hills Church Sermon Series Archives: whchurch.org
- Compassion at The Meeting House: themeetinghouse.ca/compassion
- The Africa Blog: africa.themeetinghouse.ca
- Mission 2 at The Meeting House: themeetinghouse.ca/mission2

Q & Eh? Text 647.330.2789 or email ask@themeetinghouse.ca

HOME CHURCH QUESTIONS

Warming Up...

1. After reviewing this week's message, talk about what most encouraged, frustrated or puzzled you.
2. Reflect on this quote by *When Helping Hurts* (Corbett & Fikkert) – “The point is simply, that for His own glory, God has chosen to reveal His Kingdom in the place where the world, in all of its pride would least expect it – among the foolish, the weak, the lowly, and the despised. It is strange indeed to place the poor at the centre of a strategy for expanding a kingdom.” Discuss what strikes you the most about this concept? What makes it difficult for us to see the world in this way?

Look to the Book...

3. Read **Ephesians 2:8-10**, **James 1:22-27**, and **James 2:14-26**. Discuss the concepts of faith and deeds. How are they different? How do they compliment each other? What are some examples in scripture of how people kept them separate? Give examples of people who wove faith and deeds together well?
4. Greg paraphrased **Ephesians 2:8-10** – “By God's mercy and empowerment, we participate in the wholeness of God's abundant life, placing our trust in him and walking trustworthy before him, doing once again all the good works God had always planned for us to do.” Discuss Greg's changes to the text (Greg's is a paraphrase, not a direct translation). What did you find helpful about these changes?
5. Read **Ephesians 6:10-18**. Consider Greg's words about spiritual warfare. How is the division between the rich and the poor a matter of spiritual warfare? How can we overcome this together?

So What?...

6. We battle by changing HOW WE LIVE. What can you do this week to change how you live? How can you act justly, love mercy, walk humbly with our God? Talk together about specific examples and how you can support one another.
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 in new opportunities of learning, serving *and* building relationships with those marginalized rather than doing things that keep up in our comfort zone.

The Meeting House | Sunday, January 2/9, 2011 | Greg Boyd

Notes are available online at themeetinghouse.ca/teaching