

Thornbury Baptist Church  
Small Group Discussion Questions

**Talk Date:** June 15th 2025

**Talk title:** The Power of Pentecost – The Spirit of Jubilee

**Passage:** Isaiah 61:1-3; Luke 4:14-21

**Speaker:** Helen Paynter

**Discussion Questions**

- There were people in Israel who were ‘grieving’, ‘mourning’ and ‘in despair’ over the broken state of Israel in their day (Isaiah 61). Life was not what they expected. Why was this (see Isaiah 58:6-9)?
- What would it have meant to those ‘grieving’, ‘mourning’ and ‘in despair’ to hear the message of Is 61:1-3?
- How should we understand the significance of Jesus using the words from Isaiah 61 as his own ‘mission statement’ in Luke 4?
- Sometimes ‘the gospel’ is explained as the good news that Jesus died to forgive our sins. How does the ‘gospel’ of Isaiah 61 / Luke 4:14-21, broaden our understanding of the good news?
- How might you explain ‘the gospel’ to a non-Christian asking what it means to be a Christian?
- In her talk, Helen explained the connection between ‘the year of the Lord’s favour’ and the Old Testament year of Jubilee. The Year of Jubilee was to be marked every 50 years (7x7 years + 1). Read Leviticus 25:8-13 together, then divide up verses 14-55 between the group members. Ask them to find one way in their verses in which the law of Jubilee would affect their life if they were a wealthy Israelite and one way if they were a poor Israelite. Discuss your findings.
- Finally think about the connection between all of that, and Jesus’ claim that the Spirit has anointed him to announce that the ‘Year of the Lord’s Favour’ had started with him. What does that say about the kind of Spirit-empowered living that God is looking for in his people?

**Takeaway**

What is the main thing each person is taking away from this discussion?

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<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCM1OwaJ4eSICosAjl9Ofziw>