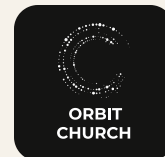


Purpose And A Double Portion

2025-02-16 • PASTOR JOSH CANIZARO



Isaiah 61

FOR THE LEADER

These questions help you run the conversation. They are not your study. Get into the passage yourself first, because your group needs what God taught you, not just a list of questions. These also lean on Sunday's message, so a few will not land for anyone who missed it. Watch it before you lead.

WHAT THE MESSAGE WAS ABOUT

When Jesus preached his first recorded message, he chose Isaiah 61: good news for the poor, freedom for captives, and a double portion in place of shame. Pastor Josh Canizaro explained the background. In Jewish inheritance, the firstborn son received twice as much as his brothers. Jesus is the firstborn among many, and he wants his portion shared. But getting there has an order. Name what has captivated you. Trade the ideas that sound good for ones that are actually godly. And be faithful with the single portion already in your hands. Ephesians 3:20 says God can do immeasurably more than we ask. That is an invitation to ask.

To get started

- Where in your life have you quietly settled for less than you once expected?

Looking back at the message

The prisoner and captive distinction is the hinge. Do not skip it.

- 1 Pastor Josh drew a line between a prisoner, held by physical chains, and a captive, held by nothing you can see. Which one describes you more right now?
- 2 Pastor Josh gave a simple test: if you cannot say no to something, you are probably bound to it. What did that test surface for you?
- 3 Pastor Josh defined empty deception as a twisted truth, a philosophy that sounds good without being godly. What is one you have believed?
- 4 Pastor Josh joked that adult life is not what anyone promised, and that disappointment quietly trains us to accept less. Where has disappointment shrunk what you expect from God? OPTIONAL

Looking at the passage

Read Isaiah 61:1-7, then Luke 4:16-21 where Jesus reads it aloud. The pairing is the point.

- 5 Read Isaiah 61:1-3. List what is promised in these verses, and who each promise is for.
- 6 Look at verse 7. A double portion is promised. What does the verse say the double portion replaces?
- 7 Read Luke 4:16-21. Jesus reads this exact passage out loud and says it is fulfilled today. What is he claiming about himself?
- 8 Read Ephesians 3:20-21. Where does the verse say God's power is at work? OPTIONAL

Bringing it home

The single-portion faithfulness point includes giving. Be direct about it without pressuring anyone.

- 9 Pastor Josh said the double portion follows faithfulness with the single portion. What single portion is already in your hands, and how faithful have you been with it?
- 10 Growth means letting go of old habits and starter ideas. What would you have to grow out of?
- 11 Pastor Josh quoted Acts 4:13, where ordinary, unschooled men were recognized because they had been with Jesus. What would people notice about you after a week of your life?
- 12 If you genuinely believed God could do immeasurably more than you ask, what would you ask for?

The group together

This was preached in Orbit's first year. The forward-looking tone is worth keeping.

- 13 What has God already done in this group that you would have called impossible beforehand?
- 14 What would a double portion look like for this group as a whole, not just for you?
- 15 Who is the one person this group should be praying for and going after?

BEFORE YOU FINISH

What do you need to say no to before you can say yes to what God has for you?

You might pray about

- For freedom from what has quietly captivated us
- For faithfulness with what is already in our hands
- For the courage to ask God for more than we have been asking