A HIS MISSION
❖ Announced by Mary.
— Mary praised God for what He had done for her (Luke 1:46-48), and for His power, love and justice to everyone (v. 49-51).
— She then announced the kingdom of the Messiah (v. 52-55). He would care for: the lowly (v. 52); the hungry (v. 53); and the oppressed (v. 54).
— This kingdom could be called the “upside-down kingdom”. In this kingdom, the powerful and wealthy of this world are the least, and the poor and oppressed are liberated, “filled,” and lifted up.
❖ Announced by Jesus.
— Jesus read Isaiah 61:1-2 at Nazareth's synagogue. This was his mission statement.
— Jesus' mission was both spiritual and practical. Taking physical care of those in need was the tangible part of Jesus' care for their spiritual health.
— Jesus encouraged His disciples to follow His example (Matthew 10:8).

B HIS MINISTRY
❖ Helping those in need.
— Jesus liberated the captives from illness, even if they had been sick for 12, 18 or 38 years.
— The healing power of the Holy Spirit through Jesus was evident, but Jesus didn't use miracles to attract more followers. Jesus always tried to keep a low profile (Mark 1:44; 8:26).
— He healed people because He loved them, and He wanted to lead them to eternal life.
❖ The prophet of those in need.
— As the old prophets did, Jesus acted harshly against those who had turned the Temple into a market.
— After Jesus had expelled the merchants from the Temple, “the blind and the lame came to Him in the temple, and He healed them”, and the children praised Him (Matthew 21:14-15).
— The old prophets were persecuted, and Jesus would also be persecuted and murdered by the religious leaders of His own people.

C HIS SACRIFICE
❖ Dying for those in need. Isaiah 53:4-5.
— Jesus was innocent, pure and kind. He always took care of those in need, but only received oppression, injustice, suffering, pain and cruel death in return.
— He did it because He loves you. He wanted to liberate you from sin and give you eternal life.
— No matter the injustice, the suffering or the need you're going through. He knows, listens, understands and acts.
— Nobody can understand your troubles and comfort you like Jesus does (Hebrews 4:15).