

On Poverty

Here's a package of diverse perspectives on (and experiences with) Poverty and the forces of Capitalism in our society. In the weeks between now and our gathering on June 12th, please review and engage with those pieces that speak to you or call for your attention in some way.

Choose one of these 5 questions to sit with over the next couple of weeks. Come to the session ready to speak about how you answer that question and the insights that arose for you as you considered it, along with the materials in the package.

1. Of the pieces below, what one most resonates with you, and why? How does your relative wealth influence how you perceive this piece?
2. Alternatively, what piece is especially dissonant for you? Is there something here that makes you feel especially uncomfortable or that is particularly difficult for you to relate to? Why? How does your socio economic position influence how you perceive this piece?
3. A recurring thread throughout these pieces is the tension between charity and empowerment when discerning how best to help lift people out of poverty. How do you reconcile these differing perspectives? How does your socio economic position influence or inform your view?
4. What is one action you can personally commit to taking, now, that helps bring us closer to healing poverty?
5. Considering the various communities you belong to (e.g. your neighbourhood, congregation, ministry, school system, place of work, etc) and your position within them, what's one action you & your community can now take to collectively commit to helping eliminate poverty in our society? How might your community move the needle on issues of socio economic equity, in your circle and/or our society at large?