

## video 4. Cultivating God's heart in our lives

Concern for those in poverty is a heart issue, first and foremost. When our hearts are aligned with God's, it might make us uncomfortable!

God wants access to our homes, our meal tables, our friendship groups, our attitudes, our savings accounts – everything we have is meant to be for the good of those around us and the glory of God.

In our culture, there are several obstacles to us living with God's heart for those around us in need. Obstacles such as materialism, individualism, cynicism and even class divisions.

We don't become more merciful, compassionate, generous and so on by osmosis. These are attributes of God that we need to actively pursue in our lives. We become more Christ-like by cultivating these things in our hearts.

### discussion questions.

- what do you think are some of the barriers that stop people who are facing poverty from feeling welcomed and at home in churches?
- how do you think we can ensure we're discipling people to become like Jesus, rather than like us?
- how much do you think a commitment to preserving a comfortable life is an issue in your own heart? What steps will you take to tackle this?
- what practical steps can you take, from this moment onwards, to grow in compassion, kindness, mercy and generosity?

spend some time praying for each other and your community.

Check out [jubilee-plus.org](http://jubilee-plus.org) or the [/jubileeplus](#) social media to keep up-to-date with events and activities.



### what next?

#### pray for yourself.

Take some time over the rest of the summer to pray for yourself to become more and more like Jesus in terms of care for those trapped in poverty.

#### pray for others.

If you know people personally or through your projects who are trapped in poverty or constantly live on the cusp of it, pray for them. If you don't know anyone in this situation, pray for God to bring people in poverty across your path this summer.

#### pray for the community.

Pray for those in your local area who are facing poverty, whether it's economic, aspirational, relational or spiritual. Pray for those who make decisions that affect those in poverty in your community. Pray for the church to be known as a place where people can come to find mercy and compassion in their time of crisis, no matter how they got into hardship.

#### pray for the nation.

Especially pray for those with the power to change systems and policies to alleviate poverty and make a difference to the lives of the most vulnerable.

#### engage with Jubilee+.

We would love to see you at our annual Churches that Change Communities conference in the autumn. Find out more details about it, about other events, and sign up for our newsletter at our website...

[jubilee-plus.org](http://jubilee-plus.org)

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