

# THE **crossing** **small groups**

## You Are the Hands and Feet of Jesus

Keith Simon | Matthew 11:4-5

### Sermon Discussion Participant's Guide

**Purpose of Discussion:** To act as the hands and feet of Jesus in our community.

**Icebreaker:** What's a more obscure Christmas song that is among your favorites?

#### **Discussion:**

1. Why do we naturally want to connect with the powerful, the famous, and the wealthy?

**Transition:** God chose the time, the place, the family, and the conditions in which he would enter the world in the person of Jesus.

#### **Read:**

[Galatians 4:4](#)

<sup>4</sup> But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law

[Philippians 2:5-7](#)

<sup>5</sup> In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:

<sup>6</sup> Who, being in very nature God,

did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage;

<sup>7</sup> rather, he made himself nothing

by taking the very nature of a servant,

being made in human likeness.

2. From what we know about the birth of Jesus, how did Jesus choose to come into humble circumstances?

**Transition:** Throughout his life and ministry, Jesus ministered to all people, but showed a preference and priority for the poor and needy. Mary said this would be true of Jesus even when she was told she was carrying him in her womb. Jesus characterized his own ministry this way when John the Baptist was asking if he really was the Messiah.

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## **Read:**

[Luke 1:52-53](#)

<sup>52</sup> He has brought down rulers from their thrones  
but has lifted up the humble.

<sup>53</sup> He has filled the hungry with good things  
but has sent the rich away empty.

[Matthew 11:4-5](#)

<sup>4</sup> Jesus replied, "Go back and report to John what you hear and see:<sup>5</sup> The blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is proclaimed to the poor.

3. How else did you see Jesus show a love for the poor and needy?

## **Read:**

[1 Corinthians 12:27](#)

<sup>27</sup> Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.

4. How does being the body of Jesus (e.g. his hands, his feet, his mouth) change the way you think about your life?
5. Think for a minute on your own about where you feel like Jesus is wanting you to be his hands and feet in our community this Christmas season. Share that with each other.
6. It can be intimidating to step into these situations. How does Jesus' promise to be with us help give you courage?

## **Sharing and Prayer:**

Pray together short prayers for whatever needs come to mind in our community and in our church.