1. The Compassionate Ministry of Jesus
   b) Share examples of how this prophecy was fulfilled in the life of Jesus. (Matthew 11:5, Mark 1:32-34, etc.)
   c) Why did Jesus place such a great emphasis on caring for the poor and oppressed?
   d) Read Matthew 25:31-40. What is the connection between our care for “the least of these” and our relationship with Jesus, our compassionate Savior?

2. Inspired guidelines regarding caring for the poor
   a) Deuteronomy 15:11, Psalm 82:3-4, 1 Timothy 6:17-19, etc.
   b) What were some practical ways God’s people were instructed to care for the poor? Exodus 23:10-11, Leviticus 23:22
   c) What promises were given to those who cared for the poor? Proverbs 28:27a, Psalm 41:1-2, Isaiah 58:6-9a.
   d) Share a time when you were blessed as you cared for someone in need.

3. The example of Job
   a) How does the Bible describe this man from the land of Uz? Job 1:1,8
   b) How did Job relate to the poor? Job 29:12-16
   c) What can we learn from Job’s testimony that “I searched out the case that I did not know”?
   d) How can we locate the people in need God wants us to help? James 1:5, Psalm 32:8, etc.

4. The contrasting stories of two rich men
   a) The rich young ruler
      i) Matthew 19:16-22 What do you learn about this rich young ruler by reading Matthew’s account?
      ii) Jesus didn’t ask everyone to give all their possessions to the poor. Why did Jesus give these specific directions to the rich young ruler?
      iii) How do the words of Jesus recorded in Mark 8:36 relate to this rich young ruler?
   b) The rich tax collector, Zacchaeus
      i) Luke 19:1-10 How did the reaction of this rich tax collector differ from the reaction of the rich young ruler?
      ii) How did the behavior of Zacchaeus demonstrate a complete surrender to Jesus as his Savior and Lord?
      iii) Why didn’t Jesus ask Zacchaeus to give away all his goods to the poor rather than 50%?
   c) What important lessons can we learn from these stories for our lives today?