

“The Values of FLC: Social Responsibility”

Isaiah 61: 1-3

- 1 *The Spirit of the Sovereign LORD is on me,
because the LORD has anointed me
to **proclaim good news** to the poor.
He has sent me to **bind up** the brokenhearted,
to **proclaim** freedom for the captives
and release from darkness for the prisoners,*
- 2 *to **proclaim** the year of the LORD’s favor
and the day of vengeance of our God,
to **comfort** all who mourn,*
- 3 *and **provide** for those who grieve in Zion—
to **bestow** on them
a crown of beauty instead of ashes,
the oil of joy instead of mourning,
and a garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair.
They will be called oaks of righteousness,
a planting of the LORD for the display of his splendor.*

Isaiah 61:1-3 (NIV)

The Values of FLC: Social Responsibility

“We uphold biblical justice. We minister to those in our communities no matter what walk of life or background they come from. We protect, strengthen, and uphold the values of family and marriage.”

A. The Partners in Ministry (Is 61:1a, 3b; cf Lk 4:14-21)

How should we approach the topic of social responsibility?

- God's Role and Our Responsibility (v. 1a)
- We are not the Saviour (“a planting of the LORD” v. 3b)
- The world is not our home (Lk 4:18-19)
- Dependence, not Presumption(v. 1a)
- Deflection, not Pride (“for the display of his splendor” v. 3b)

B. The Perfect Mandate (Is 61:1b-3a)

What two things do we need to pay attention to?

- Proclamation (“preach good news; proclaim; proclaim”)
- Demonstration (“bind up; comfort; provide; give”)
- The Great Commandment: love one another/love your neighbor (Jn 13:34-35; 17:21-23; Mk 12:31)
- The Great Commission: preach the Gospel/go and make disciples (Mk 16:15; Mt 28:18-20)
- When Confrontation is needed (Ps 82:1-4; Lk 13:14-16)
- When Conviction is more effective (1 Pet 2:11–3:17)

C. The Persons we Meet (Is 61:1b-3a)

Where do I begin? (“He has sent me to...”)

- Seek out the Helpless (“poor, prisoners, oppressed”)
- Seek out the Hopeless (“brokenhearted, grieve, despair”)
- Seek their Holistic transformation (“crown, oil, garment...instead of”)

Other references:

- The Cape Town Commitment (Lausanne Movement, 2011)
 - Church and integral mission (Tearfund)
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