

# Care Ministry in Metropolitan Areas

## Empowerment in the Inner City

Dr. Tom Grassano, Metro New York City

### I. The Urban Context of Ministry

What are the needs?

What differs from and what is similar to ministry in suburban America?

What can potentially happen through effective urban ministry?

### II. What are the true needs in the Inner City?

Long-term effects on the worldviews of urban citizens, and what is needed to truly increase dignity, fulfill destinies, and transform communities.

### III. A Model for Empowerment: Isaiah 61

Of all the scriptures Jesus could have read in his home “church,” He chose Isaiah 61. Through this passage, we find God’s theology of ministry to the poor:

Verse 1 *The Spirit of the Sovereign LORD is upon Me, because the LORD has appointed Me to bring good news to the poor.*

Verse 3 *To all who mourn in Israel, He will give beauty for ashes, joy instead of mourning, praise instead of despair.*

Verse 3b *For the LORD has planted them like strong and graceful oaks for His own glory.*

Verse 4 *They will rebuild the ancient ruins, repairing cities long ago destroyed. They will revive them, though they have been empty for many generations.*

Verse 5 *Foreigners will be your servants.*

Verse 6 *You will be called priests of the LORD, ministers of our God.*

This is the vision of Urban Harvest Ministries.

- NOTES -