

Life Group Notes**Sunday 04 March 2018****Speaker:** Andy McCullough**Title:** A Church for The Nations**Passages:** Isaiah 61 & 62

Drawing out seven aspects of the church's job description from Isaiah 61 and 62:

1. Preachers to the Poor (Is 61.1)

When the Spirit comes upon the church, they preach good news to the poor.

2. Restorers of Ruins (Is 61.4)

Our movement newfrontiers started by feeling called to restore the church in post-Christian Britain. Mainland Europe today is spiritually desolate in many places. Who feels called to help rebuild?

3. Scattered Seed (Is 61.9)

Seed is scattered into many nations in order to transform and bring blessing. Jesus said that the seed is us – he sows Christians into different cultures. You are seed! Let the farmer sow you where he chooses!

4. God's gardeners (Is 61.11)

Adam and Eve's calling was to extend the garden into the wilderness. The Risen Jesus is likewise the Gardener – bringing the Kingdom of God. Church, we are also called to be gardeners, bringing the kingdom where ever we go!

5. Passionate prophets (Is 62.1-2)

Prophetic people long to see the church a city set on a hill, burning bright in the darkness and visible as a place of refuge. "I will not be quiet," Isaiah kept prophesying for decades without giving up. We need prophets to keep setting the temperature!

6. Insistent Intercessors (Is 62.6-7)

"Give him no rest" – the church needs to keep on praying. Jesus taught that we should keep on praying and not give up. Will you keep praying?

7. Apostolic Ambition (Is 62.10)

Let's keep dreaming for more – a highway is a road for an army! Let's not settle, Reading Family Church!

Questions for personal application

1. Which one of these roles do you most identify with, and why? How can you grow into all that God has for you in this area?
2. Dream together: what could it look like to see RFC as a church impacting nations – in 5 years' time, 10 years' time?
3. What are your fears in this area? Do you have concerns about RFC really going for apostolic mission in a big way?