

WHY DO IT?

The Scriptures are clear: God cares for the poor and marginalized and has called us to be involved with them, to bring them the good news of Jesus Christ. Unfortunately, much of our discipleship has ignored this important command.

This unique simulation, Plunge2Poverty, is designed to help train participants about the realities of our world of need, God's heart for the poor, and how we can better live out God's call for us to connect with the poor. For more than 20 years, groups have been "experiencing" poverty through intensive Poverty Simulation experiences at Mission Waco, now available in South Dallas.

No one has ever been hurt during this experience, but the simulation will stretch participants outside their comfort zones to face their own materialism and cultural values, and to refocus on the biblical mandates. Because too much information takes away from the impact of the simulation, there are many details that we do not give out. However, we will follow all VRBC student ministry guidelines at all times during the experience.

This experience has the potential to change or shape your worldview dramatically, and so we encourage families (high school and older) to participate together. There will be much to process in the weeks and months following the poverty simulation, and it is helpful for families to be able to discuss and apply what they have learned together. We hope you return home with new eyes and ears for the needs of the poor in our own community, our nation, and the world. Parents - thanks for encouraging this important development for your students, and consider joining them in this experience. Please pray that God will do great things in their lives during Plunge2Poverty!



Valley Ranch Baptist Church & Cornerstone Baptist Church

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Valley Ranch Baptist Church & Cornerstone Baptist Church

PLUNGE 2 POVERTY

POVERTY SIMULATION, APRIL 1-3

VRBC.NET/POVERTY-SIMULATION



TEL: 972 304 8722



WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW...

JOIN US FOR A WEEKEND THAT WILL CHANGE YOUR LIFE AND THE LIFE OF OUR CHURCH. ANYONE IN 9TH GRADE OR OLDER CAN PARTICIPATE.

FROM 8PM ON FRIDAY UNTIL 3PM ON SUNDAY, YOU WILL EXPERIENCE WHAT LIFE IS LIKE FOR THE POOR IN OUR COMMUNITY AND AROUND THE WORLD. YOU WILL BE SHARPENED, STRETCHED AND LEARN TO LOVE THE POOR LIKE NEVER BEFORE. IN ADDITION, YOU WILL MAKE RELATIONSHIPS WITH THE POOR IN SOUTH DALLAS THAT WE HOPE WILL LAST LONG PAST THIS WEEKEND.



MANY OF THE POOR DO NOT KNOW WHERE THEY WILL SLEEP, WHAT THEY WILL EAT, OR WHAT THEY WILL DO TOMORROW. THIS SENSE OF HELPLESSNESS AND POWERLESSNESS IS KEY TO UNDERSTANDING POVERTY, SO MANY OF THE POVERTY SIMULATION DETAILS ARE NOT DIVULGED. ASK PAST PARTICIPANTS AND THEY WILL GLADLY TELL YOU WHAT THIS EXPERIENCE HAS MEANT TO THEM, AND THEY WILL URGE YOU TO JOIN US.

Frequently Asked Questions

What do we bring? Pack as if you were going on a retreat—sleeping bag, pillow, clothing, etc. Nice jewelry, money, and electronics (games, ipods, etc) are not allowed. Be sure to bring your completed release form, available at <http://vrbc.net/poverty-simulation>.

Is the simulation safe? You will never be alone. You will ALWAYS be supervised. You will be safer in this simulation than you might be at your local mall.

What should I expect? To glimpse things about yourself you didn't know and wouldn't necessarily choose to know.

Will I be miserable? You will need to pack a good attitude and have a desire to know your Lord and Redeemer in a deeper way. When you love someone, you know what breaks their heart.

What will I eat? Where will I sleep? You have some choice of necessities like food and shelter.

What ages can participate? High school and adults.

What if someone has a special diet or needs medication? Personal health is important to us. This person will need to bring items for the special diet and their medications.

What if I cannot come for the entire simulation? Come at another time when you can stay for the entire simulation. The impact is considerably lessened if you leave. The simulation starts at 8:00 pm sharp on Friday night and ends on Sunday at 3:00pm. Only 43 hours long!



Where do I go to begin? Our location in south Dallas cannot accommodate many cars over the weekend, so we will need to carpool in as few vehicles as possible. If you are coming from near the Coppell / Valley Ranch area, meet in the VRBC parking lot at 7:00pm Friday evening to carpool to Cornerstone, and we should return to VRBC around 3:30pm Sunday. From other areas in DFW, please carpool and meet at the Cornerstone Clothes Closet at 2711 S. Ervay St. (park at the apartments) at 8pm Friday. Be sure to bring your signed release form, available at <http://vrbc.net/poverty-simulation>.

How do I sign up? The poverty simulation costs \$50 to cover the expenses for food and supplies. An early bird price of \$40 is available until January 31st. Please register and pay at <http://vrbc.net/poverty-simulation> by the Sunday before.

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