

Chat with the Children

- Tall Duplo tower pre-built
 - get a kid to destroy it...
 - then work together to rebuild it...
 - *Creation - Fall - Redemption*
 - pattern present throughout Scripture...
 - helpful in assessing what we see around us, experience, live through...
 - is there something of creation, what God has made?
 - is there something of the fall, of things spoiled by humans mucking it up?
 - is there something of redemption, of being restored to what God intended by his work?
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What is Poverty?

- What is poverty?
 - (Soddo market image)
- Material stuff?
 - that's the answer richer people tend to give!
- Ask the poor, whether in the developing world or in the West, and their answers come in more relational terms:
 - read quotes from "When helping hurts", beginning of chapter two

Biblical picture of poverty

- This gives us a clue to a wider view of what poverty is:
 - when God made the world, he created for people four fundamental relationships...
 - with God
 - with self
 - with others
 - with the rest of creation - stuff
- Poverty occurs when one or more of these relationships is damaged and mis-firing...

Creation - Fall - Redemption

- Created relationship with God - per garden of Eden - face to face
- Fallen relationship with God - shame, fear, self - hidden
- Restored relationship with God - in Christ, destination heaven, "the dwelling of God is with men..."
 - this is what Paul is pointing towards the process of in 2 Corinthians 5:11-6:2
- Reconciled - in Christ - now able to participate in the ministry of reconciliation - passing on our new relational wealth to others
 - generosity of the poor... Mangoes!
- Explain again the reconciliation of the cross, the dealing with sin that vs.19 speaks of
 - and implore as v.20 does people to be reconciled to God...