



Cornerstone
CHURCH

Love Like Jesus

With Radical Compassion for the Hurting

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Radical = Affecting the Fundamental Nature of Something

Compassion = Moved in the “Inward Parts” or Bowels; Deep, Gut-Level Empathy and a Call to Action

“I would rather make mistakes in kindness and compassion than work miracles in unkindness and hardness.”

Mother Teresa

Jesus traveled through all the towns and villages of that area, teaching in the synagogues and announcing the Good News about the Kingdom. And he healed every kind of disease and illness. When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them because they were confused and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.

Matthew 9:35-36 NLT

As soon as Jesus heard the news, he left in a boat to a remote area to be alone. But the crowds heard where he was headed and followed on foot from many towns. Jesus saw the huge crowd as he stepped from the boat, and he had compassion on them and healed their sick.

Matthew 14:13-14 NLT

Compassion is not passive; it reaches out to meet needs.

Jesus loves the masses and the multitudes and He loves the individual.

1. RADICAL COMPASSION TOUCHES THE UNTOUCHABLES

A man with leprosy came and knelt in front of Jesus, begging to be healed. “If you are willing, you can heal me and make me clean,” he said. Moved with compassion, Jesus reached out and touched him. “I am willing,” he said. “Be healed!” Instantly the leprosy disappeared, and the man was healed.

Mark 1:40-42 NLT

“For five years no one touched me... What is common to you, I coveted. Handshakes. Warm embraces. A tap on the shoulder to get my attention... Such moments were taken from my world. No one touched me. No one bumped into me... I was untouchable. I was a leper. And no one touched me. Until today... Five years have passed, and no one has touched me since, until today... But then I saw Him, and when I saw Him, I was changed... Before He spoke, I knew He cared. Everyone stepped back except Him. He stepped toward me. Toward me... Had He healed me with a word, I would have been thrilled. Had He cured me with a prayer, I would have rejoiced. But He wasn't satisfied with speaking to me. He drew near me. He touched me.”

Just Like Jesus Devotional, Days 7 and 8, Max Lucado

2. RADICAL COMPASSION REDEEMS THE UNREDEEMABLE

So they arrived in the region of the Gerasenes, across the lake from Galilee. As Jesus was climbing out of the boat, a man who was possessed by demons came out to meet him. For a long time he had been homeless and naked, living in the tombs outside the town. As soon as he saw Jesus, he shrieked and fell down in front of him. Then he screamed, “Why are you interfering with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? Please, I beg you, don’t torture me!”

And all the people in the region of the Gerasenes begged Jesus to go away and leave them alone, for a great wave of fear swept over them. So Jesus returned to the boat and left, crossing back to the other side of the lake. The man who had been freed from the demons begged to go with him. But Jesus sent him home, saying, “No, go back to your family, and tell them everything God has done for you.” So he went all through the town proclaiming the great things Jesus had done for him.

Luke 8:26-28, 37-39 NLT

3. RADICAL COMPASSION IS AVAILABLE TO THE UNBELIEVER

As Jesus was starting out on his way to Jerusalem, a man came running up to him, knelt down, and asked, “Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?” “Why do you call me good?” Jesus asked. “Only God is truly good. But to answer your question, you know the commandments: ‘You must not murder. You must not commit adultery. You must not steal. You must not testify falsely. You must not cheat anyone. Honor your father and mother.’” “Teacher,” the man replied, “I’ve obeyed all these commandments since I was young.” Looking at the man, Jesus felt genuine love for him. “There is still one thing you haven’t done,” he told him. “Go and sell all your possessions and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me.” At this the man’s face fell, and he went away sad, for he had many possessions.

Mark 10:17-22 NLT

4. RADICAL COMPASSION RESTORES WORTH TO THE UNWORTHY

After breakfast Jesus asked Simon Peter, “Simon son of John, do you love [agape] me more than these?” “Yes, Lord,” Peter replied, “you know I love [fileo] you.” “Then feed my lambs,” Jesus told him. Jesus repeated the question: “Simon son of John, do you love [agape] me?” “Yes, Lord,” Peter said, “you know I love [fileo] you.” “Then take care of my sheep,” Jesus said. A third time he asked him, “Simon son of John, do you love [fileo] me?” Peter was hurt that Jesus asked the question a third time. He said, “Lord, you know everything. You know that I love [fileo] you.” Jesus said, “Then feed my sheep.”

John 21:15-17 NLT

The radical compassion and agape love of Jesus is here to meet you where you have the greatest need.

You don't have the right to revoke God's call on your life.