

# 02/12/23 Message

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Part of OneChanging the world - One at a time!

February 18, 2023

## Message: Crowd-Less

### Series: One

This is a series based on God's call for us to change the world, one person at a time. Jesus modeled this in His ministry, and He teaches us to model it throughout our life - in the way that we live, in the things that we do. We model it through how (and what or who) we love, and the action of being His hands and feet, reaching one person at a time.

## Difference Makers

Nobody grows up dreaming of waking up, going to work, heading home, watching TV, living their best life on social media - then doing it again, over and over again, until their life on this earth is over. Nobody wants to be a cog in the wheel, insignificant, or just go through the motions - we want to make a difference!

*We don't want to spend our lives being time-wasters, space-takers, binge-watchers, game-players, or even book-readers. We want to be difference-makers.*

—Mark Batterson

Jesus revealed Himself to a world that wasn't ready for Him, doesn't know Him, yet somewhere deep inside, they know He is what they need! The disciples all left everything they knew (all their creature comforts) and followed Jesus. They followed Jesus because they wanted to change the world! They wanted to be difference makers. Jesus wanted that for them, too! Jesus wants that for you!

One author wrote this:

"If we study the story of His life as recorded in the Gospels, there are a number of answers we could highlight, but there's one particular phrase that captures how Jesus had such an impact, and I believe it's how He wants to use us to make a difference: one at a time! Making a

difference isn't measured by a viral post or a name on a building. It isn't determined by a following or fan base. Making a difference isn't dependent on what's in your bank account or who's in your contacts. Want to make a difference? Focus on the one. That's it. That's the secret of the way of Jesus. One at a time."

## **Most Important Commandment**

A Pharisee was trying to trap Jesus and asked Him, out of the 613 laws, which is most important, and Jesus replied -

"Love the LORD your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. The second is equally important, love your neighbor as yourself."

- Two commandments that are equally important and both hinge on one word, LOVE!

Love is a conduit to changing the world, one person at a time!

## **Finding One in a Crowd**

### ***Luke 8:40-42 (NLT)***

40 On the other side of the lake the crowds welcomed Jesus, because they had been waiting for Him.

41 Then a man named Jairus, a leader of the local synagogue, came and fell at Jesus' feet, pleading with Him to come home with him.

42 His only daughter, who was twelve years old, was dying. As Jesus went with him, He was surrounded by the crowds.

Everywhere Jesus went, He was surrounded by massive crowds. Yet, in nearly every circumstance where He ministered or performed a miracle, He zeroed in on one person (focused on one person).

### ***Luke 8:43-48 (NLT)***

43 A woman in the crowd had suffered for twelve years with constant bleeding, and she could find no cure.

44 Coming up behind Jesus, she touched the fringe of His robe. Immediately, the bleeding stopped.

45 "Who touched me?" Jesus asked. Everyone denied it, and Peter said, "Master, this whole crowd is pressing up against you."

46 But Jesus said, "Someone deliberately touched me, for I felt healing power go out from me."

47 When the woman realized that she could not stay hidden, she began to tremble and fell to her knees before Him. The whole crowd heard her explain why she had touched Him and that she had been immediately healed.

48 "Daughter," He said to her, "your faith has made you well. Go in peace."

Even in the crowds, Jesus never lost sight of the one.

Jesus looked out in the crowd and He loves them all, but His ministry is focused on one person at a time.

## **In the Crowd, there is Always One**

### ***Luke 19:1-10***

One at a time!

### ***Matthew 8:1-4***

One at a time!

### ***John 5:2-9***

One at a time!

## **Prayer for the Week**

"Jesus, give me Your eyes for the one. Help me to see people the way you see them. Help me to love people the way you love them. One at a time."

### ***Matthew 9:36 (NLT)***

When He saw the crowds, He had compassion on them because they were confused and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.

Someone said, "I need to be disciplined by Jesus. Not just disciplined in my relationship with God; I need to be disciplined by Jesus in my relationship with people."

Jesus looked at others with compassion (cf. Matthew 9:36).

See out Scripture that talks about the compassion Jesus shows others. It will teach you a lot about the love Jesus has for others, the love we should have for others, the compassion we should have for others.

*I read of a church who got in the mindset of: If we can't do it for everyone, we can't do it for one. But then Jesus got in the middle and they changed it to: We will do for the one what we wish we could do for everyone! That's the Jesus way!*

*—Pastor Chad*

Jesus - give me your eyes for the one! Help me to see people the way you see them. Help me to love people the way you love them. One at a time!