Moved with Compassion

Small Group Handout • November 1, 2026 • Joy in Thanksgiving

Read together Mark 1:40–45 • Leviticus 13:42–46; Luke 17:11–16

Key verse "And Jesus, moved with compassion, put forth his hand, and touched him, and saith unto him, I will; be thou clean." Mark 1:41 (KJV)

Under the Law, people with leprosy were declared unclean and lived outside the camp, separated from family, worship, and community. Their cry of "Unclean, unclean" warned others to keep their distance (Leviticus 13:45–46).

In Mark 1:40–45, a leper knelt before Jesus and pleaded, "If thou wilt, thou canst make me clean." He believed Jesus had power but wondered if He was willing. Moved with compassion, Jesus touched him and said, "I will; be thou clean." Immediately, the leprosy departed. Jesus then sent him to the priest so his cleansing could be confirmed and he could return to community.

Jesus saw a person where others saw uncleanness. His compassion became action. God is willing to touch and heal those society casts aside, and He calls us to be His hands through welcome, kindness, and practical care.

Discuss Together

1. What does the leper's request—and Jesus' response—teach us about approaching Jesus with our needs?
2. Who might feel isolated or overlooked in our community or church? What barriers could keep us from welcoming them?
3. Jesus' compassion moved Him to act. What can make us indifferent to others, and how can we guard our hearts against apathy?
4. What act of compassion has made a difference in your life? What specific act of love can you offer someone who feels cast aside this week?

Take a Step

This week I will: _____

Pray Together

Ask Jesus to increase our compassion, help us notice the overlooked, and lead us to welcome and serve the hurting. Pray for healing and restoration in His name.