

Moved with Compassion

May 3, 2026

- Matthew 9:35–38
 - Jesus had compassion
 - People confused and helpless (NASB - distressed and dispirited), (NKJV – weary and scattered), (AMP - harassed and distressed and dejected and helpless),
 - Like sheep without a shepherd
 - There are a lot of them

Confused and helpless and directionless

- Towards people who have experienced trauma or made poor choices and now living out the consequences
- Such were some of you...1 Corinthians 6:9–11
 - Such were some of you...but you were made right with God

Element of coming to their senses

- Prodigal Son – Luke 15:11-32
 - Father – gave freedom to choose
 - Younger son – chose poorly, but came to his senses
 - Father – filled with love and compassion
 - Younger son - restored
 - Older brother – angry, “unfair”
- Casting Stones – John 8:1-11
 - Scribes and Pharisees – stone her
 - Jesus – okay, start with the one who has never sinned
 - Scribes and Pharisees – came to their senses
 - Woman – “Lord”
 - Jesus – no condemnation – sin no more
 - Compassionate instruction – for the confused, harassed, helpless and directionless

The Narrative that leads to confusion

- Thoughts raised up against the knowledge of God – 2 Corinthians 10:5 – take every thought captive
- Lies so clever they sound like the truth - Ephesians 4:14 - We will not be influenced when people try to trick us with lies so clever they sound like the truth.

- Ephesians 4:11–16 ...14 As a result, we are no longer to be children, tossed here and there by waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, by craftiness in deceitful scheming; 15 but speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in all aspects into Him who is the head, even Christ...
 - A most compassionate thing...speaking the truth in love

Increasing Compassion

- Listen to their story (Active Listening)
- Step in their shoes (Imagining)
- Come to your senses
- Look for signs of coming to their senses

Jesus, our example – Stepping in their steps

- Philippians 2:7–8
- Hebrews 4:15 (
- 1 Corinthians 6:11 Some of you were once like that. But you were cleansed; you were made holy; you were made right with God...
 - Still tempted and tested
 - Still taking thoughts captive
 - Still rebuking lies so clever they sound like the truth
- Jesus expresses the very character of God
- Show me your glory – Exodus 34:6 The God of compassion and mercy! I am slow to anger and filled with unfailing love and faithfulness.
- Luke 7:13 (NLT) — 13 When the Lord saw her, his heart overflowed with compassion. “Don’t cry!” he said.
- Mark 1:41 (NLT) — 41 Moved with compassion, Jesus reached out and touched him. “I am willing,” he said. “Be healed!”
- Matthew 14:14 (NLT) — 14 Jesus saw the huge crowd as he stepped from the boat, and he had compassion on them and healed their sick.
- Luke 10:33 (NLT) — 33 “Then a despised Samaritan came along, and when he saw the man, he felt compassion for him.
- Romans 8:29 (NLT) — 29 For God knew his people in advance, and he chose them to become like his Son, so that his Son would be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters.