



**FOLLOW: A Great Compassion**

**The Journey of Discipleship:**

- Starts with a Great Call (*Follow me*)
  - Rooted on a Great Commandment (*Love God, Love Others*)
  - As Citizens of a Great Kingdom (*The Kingdom of God*)
  - Moved by a Great \_\_\_\_\_

### Compassion in the Church of Corinth

*Head coverings, a guy named Erastus and the temple of Aphrodite:*

- “ Erastus, who is the city’s director of public works ... sends you their greetings.” ~ ROMANS 16:23b (NIV)
- “ For the one who was a slave when called to faith in the Lord is the Lord’s freed person; similarly, the one who was free when called is Christ’s slave. You were bought at a price; do not become slaves of human beings.” ~ 1 CORINTHIANS 7:22-23 (NIV)
- “ you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your bodies.” ~ 1 CORINTHIANS 6:20 (NIV)

“ To cities filled with the homeless and impoverished, Christianity offered charity and hope. To cities filled with new comers and strangers Christianity offered an immediate basis for attachments. To cities filled with orphans and widows, Christianity provided a new and expanded family. To cities torn by violent ethnic strife, Christianity offered a new basis for solidarity. And to cities faced with epidemics, fires and earthquakes, Christianity offered effective nursing services. No wonder the early Christians were so warmly received in Rome. What they brought was not simply a movement, but a new culture.”

- Rodney Stark, *Historian*

Compassion in the New Testament:

(Latin): to \_\_\_\_\_ .

Greek) *splagnizomai*: \_\_\_\_\_ .

### Following Jesus’ Model of Compassion

1. Jesus shows compassion to people considered \_\_\_\_\_ .

“ <sup>40</sup> A man with leprosy came to him and begged him on his knees, ‘If you are willing, you can make me clean.’ <sup>41</sup> Jesus was (moved with compassion) He reached out his hand and touched the man. ‘I am willing,’ he said. ‘Be clean!’ <sup>42</sup> Immediately the leprosy left him and he was cleansed.

~ MARK 1:40-42 (NIV)

“<sup>8</sup> Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute. <sup>9</sup> Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of the poor and needy.”

~ PROVERBS 31:8-9 (NIV)

## Are We Becoming a Society that Cares Less?

With the rise of technology and social media:

1. We are becoming more obsessed with \_\_\_\_\_.
2. We are becoming more desensitized to \_\_\_\_\_.
3. We see a lack of personal interaction, making it easier \_\_\_\_\_.

2. Jesus shows compassion moves to action even if it is \_\_\_\_\_.

“<sup>30</sup> The apostles gathered around Jesus and reported to him all they had done and taught. <sup>31</sup> Then, because so many people were coming and going that they did not even have a chance to eat, he said to them, ‘Come with me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest.’ <sup>32</sup> So they went away by themselves in a boat to a solitary place. <sup>33</sup> But many who saw them leaving recognized them and ran on foot from all the towns and got there ahead of them. <sup>34</sup> When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, he had compassion on them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd. So he began teaching them many things.”

~ MARK 6:30-34 (NIV)

### So What

Do I have margin in my life to act on compassion?

3. Jesus teaches us to show compassion for people caught in \_\_\_\_\_.

“<sup>6</sup> But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him.”

~ LUKE 15:20b (NIV)

So What? Who is someone I need to \_\_\_\_\_ this week?

### DISCUSSION Questions:

COMMUNITY GROUP VIDEOS available on the APP |    

- 1- Was the idea of showing compassion to others something demonstrated to you when you were young? If so, how?
- 2- Can you recall from this week's message why pastor Glen said head coverings, a guy named Erastus and the Temple of Aphrodites demonstrated compassion in the Corinthian Church?
- 3- Read Mark 1:40-41. How did this healing show Jesus' compassion for the outsider and outcast? Can you think of other examples where Jesus showed compassion to those neglected and overlooked in society? What are some practical ways Christians can follow this example in our current culture?
- 4- Read Mark 6:30-34. How does Jesus model compassion here even when it was inconvenient or costly?
- 5- How do you balance a need for "self care" with a model of sacrificial compassion? Would you say you have margin in your life to show compassion when the needs arise?
- 6- Read Luke 15: 17-21. Does it seem significant to you that Jesus describes the Father as "filled with compassion" in this story? Why or why not? In what ways has it been difficult for you to show compassion to people still caught in their sin?
- 7- What is your biggest take away from this week's study and how can you put compassion into practice this week?

GET CONNECTED  
at FIRST:



ONLINE at  
fbclodi.org



The APP    
Search "FBC Lodi"



EMAIL  
Weekly Email

267 N. MILLS AVE  
209.334.1332

First  
CHURCH