



## Part 3: Seeing Like Jesus

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### Today's Main Thing

<sup>35</sup> And Jesus went throughout all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction. <sup>36</sup> When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. <sup>37</sup> Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; <sup>38</sup> therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest." – Matthew 9:35-38 (ESV)

**How Jesus saw people determined how he thought about people, how he felt about people and what he did for people. His caring attitude and action was inspired by his compassionate vision!**

Jesus' compassionate vision caused him to live "on the go" so all could know.

*"And Jesus went throughout all the cities and villages..." – Matthew 9:35*

*"For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost." – Luke 19:10*

Jesus' compassionate vision came from seeing people as they really are.

*"...they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd." – Matthew 9:36*

### People without Jesus battle 5 Goliath-sized problems:

1. **Spiritual blindness** (2 Corinthians 4:3-4)
2. **Corrupt leadership and injustice** (Proverbs 28:15-16a)
3. **Debilitating poverty** (Proverbs 19:17; 28:27)
4. **Life-threatening disease** (1 John 3:17-18)
5. **Life-limiting illiteracy** (Proverbs 3:27)

Jesus' compassionate vision produced practical ministry to them.

*He had compassion on them so... he taught in their synagogues, he announced the Good News about the Kingdom and he healed every kind of disease and illness.*

*"Do not be overcome by evil; but overcome evil with good." – Romans 12:21*

*"The worst sin towards our fellow creatures is not to hate them, but to be indifferent to them; that is the essence of inhumanity." – George Bernard Shaw*

The harvest is more plentiful than it has ever been, but the laborers are few where we need them most!

*Jesus is building his church and the gates of hell are not prevailing against it!  
Nothing and no one can stop the unstoppable Jesus!*

### **Bringing it Home**

Who are the harassed and hurting lost sheep in your life?

How do you honestly see them and feel about them?

Are you willing to receive Jesus' compassionate vision for them?

Will you do what Jesus tells you to do for them?

### **Here's the Main Thing**

Jesus wants us to **see** people the way he sees them so that we think about them the way he **thinks** about them, we **feel** about them the way he feels about them, and we do for them what he wants us to do for them.

### **Next Steps**

March is Missions Month at CTK. Over the next three weekends you'll have an opportunity to give toward specific projects we've chosen to support this year, including the Life Giving Network. Find out more about the Life Giving Network at their table in the Commons today.

### **Small Group Questions**

- 1) As you read Matthew 9, did you see anything that you never saw before? What new insights did you glean from the message?
- 2) How do you honestly tend to see the people you interact with? Do you have compassionate vision or is that something you need more of?
- 3) Are there "harassed and helpless" children, women or men that Jesus is giving you a heart to help? What will you do next to help them?
- 4) Who is it hardest for you to have compassionate vision for? Why is that? Could we pray for one another to see them the way Jesus sees them?
- 5) How else can we pray for you right now and throughout the week?