

# THE WAY OF JESUS:

Sermon Series : The Way of Jesus

Speaker : Mike Tatlock

Date : October 27, 2019

## *How do we carry the burden of injustice but not the offense of injustice?*

Matthew 9:35-38 Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and healing every disease and sickness. When **he saw** the crowds, **he had compassion** on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field."

### **He Saw**

1. They were Harassed - Skullo: shredded apart, to rend or mangle
2. They were Helpless - Rhipto: to be pushed down, to throw to the ground
3. They were sheep without a shepherd - one to minister to their souls

### **He Felt**

Compassion - Splagchnizomai: twisted in your bowels, so bothered by what you are seeing, it has a physical impact on our bodies

- Leverage power for proximity
- Move from sanitized to scandalized
- Exchange what you have for what they gain
- Seek Restorative Justice not only Retributive Justice
- Embrace the impossible possibility
- Take up your cross but not every cross... Spirit Burden vs Shame Burden
- Healing requires both in-patient and out-patient care
- Avoid the bait of offense

## QUESTIONS

1. Read Matthew 21:12-13, Matthew 5:38-40, and 1 Peter 3:9  
What do these verses say about injustice? These verses represent two seemingly opposite responses to injustice. Which response is your default? How have you seen that play out in your life?
2. What do you see in the world around you? Are you willing to feel for others? Are you willing to step in and do something about it?
3. Philippians 2:5-8 Mike presented these two ideas:  
-Equality doesn't start with bringing others up... it begins with bringing ourselves down.  
-Equality and justice is not just about an invitation up, but an initiation down."  
How can you leverage your power for an injustice?
4. What table in your own heart needs to be turned so that you can turn the other cheek to others? What injustice in your own heart needs to be dealt with before you step into the injustices of others?

*Romans 12:17-21*