

COME AS YOU ARE
NO PERFECT PEOPLE ALLOWED
DON'T STAY AS YOU ARE
BE THE BODY Week 4
January 26, 2020
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What do you care about?

When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.

Matthew 9:36 NIV

Jesus looks at us and sees harassed and helpless people and He is literally moved to do something about it.

When you look around your neighborhood, what do you see?

POWER OF A SHARED DREAM

God's dream for His church in this world is...

My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me. John 17:20-21 NIV

God loves us all, but until we step into that relationship we do not benefit from that love.

BE THE BODY

The Body of the Church is God's dream for the world.

Just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. We have different gifts, according to the grace given us. Romans 12:4-6a NIV

We do not stay 'as is.' We stay intentional about doing life together with God and others in order to grow.

Instead, we will hold to the truth in love, becoming more and more in every way like Christ, who is the head of his body, the church. Under his direction, the whole body is fitted together perfectly. As each part does its own special work, it helps the other parts grow, so that the whole body is healthy and growing and full of love.

Ephesians 4:15-16 NLT

It starts with a simple prayer: "God I want to see with your eyes."

GOD CONVERSATIONS: OUR RELATIONAL WORLD

Who is your neighbor?

The 8-15 people that are not connected to any other body of believers that God has strategically and supernaturally placed in your world?

My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message. John 17:20 NIV

Make a list of the people God puts in your life:

Learn to do right! Seek justice, encourage the oppressed. Defend the cause of the fatherless, plead the case of the widow. Isaiah 1:17 NIV

What is your responsibility? Just tell people of the hope we have found in a relationship with Him through Jesus Christ.

Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect.

1 Peter 3:15 NIV

The eye cannot say to the hand, "I don't need you!" And the head cannot say to the feet, "I don't need you!" On the contrary, those parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and the parts that we think are less honorable we treat with special honor...If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it. Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.

1 Corinthians 12:21-23, 26-27 NIV

God wants to use all of us coordinating the gifts and experiences He has given us to show His compassion to the people He loves very much. That is how God has chosen to work.