

Consuming People

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Our Purpose: To be a community of believers where, no matter who you are, you can experience life change through Jesus Christ.

37 And he said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. 38 This is the great and first commandment. 39 And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. 40 On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets."

—Matthew 22:37-40 (ESV)

OUR RESPONSE TO CONSUMING PEOPLE IS LOVE

29 But he [the lawyer], desiring to justify himself, said to Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?"

—Luke 10:29 (ESV)

1. LOVE MOVES TOWARDS THE NEEDY

1 Now Peter and John were going up to the temple at the hour of prayer, the ninth hour. 2 And a man lame from birth was being carried, whom they laid daily at the gate of the temple that is called the Beautiful Gate to ask alms of those entering the temple. 3 Seeing Peter and John about to go into the temple, he asked to receive alms. 4 And Peter directed his gaze at him, as did John, and said, "Look at us."

—Acts 3:1-4 (ESV)

5 And he fixed his attention on them, expecting to receive something from them.

—Acts 3:5 (ESV)

6 But Peter said, "I have no silver and gold, but what I do have I give to you. In the name of Jesus Christ of

Nazareth, rise up and walk!” 7 And he took him by the right hand and raised him up, and immediately his feet and ankles were made strong.

—Acts 3:6-7 (ESV)

2. LOVE SEEKS WHAT IS NEEDED NOT JUST WANTED

Relief: *Immediate and Temporary Assistance*

Restoration: *Working with people to restore them to their God-given potential*

—Craig Groeschel, Pastor, Life Church in OK

“My son, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord, nor be weary when reproved by him. For the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and chastises every son whom he receives....” For the moment all discipline seems painful rather than pleasant, but later it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it.

—Hebrews 12:5-6,11 (ESV)

3. LOVE LOOKS TO THE REAL CURE GIVER

6 But Peter said, “I have no silver and gold, but what I do have I give to you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk!”

—Acts 3:6 (ESV)

“You are the Care Giver. Jesus is the Cure Giver!”