

IT'S WHAT WE DO

Week 3: Love Sees

#3/6

April 14 & 15, 2018

Pastor Jeff Bogue

TWO WEEKS AGO, WE INTRODUCED THIS SERIES IN WHICH WE ARE TALKING ABOUT WHAT WE DO, AS CHRIST FOLLOWERS.

- FOR THE CHRIST FOLLOWER, THIS SERIES WILL TEACH YOU HOW YOU ARE CALLED TO LIVE AND LOVE THE WORLD AROUND YOU.
- IF YOU ARE NOT YET A CHRIST FOLLOWER, THIS SERIES WILL SHOW YOU WHAT YOUR LIFE COULD BE LIKE AND EXPLAIN A LITTLE WHY CHRISTIANS ACT THE WAY THEY DO.

ONE OF THE MOST FOUNDATIONAL THINGS CHRISTIANS ARE CALLED TO, IS TO HELP OTHER PEOPLE UNDERSTAND THE HEART AND MIND OF CHRIST... AND THEIR NEED TO EMBRACE THE SALVATION CHRIST OFFERS.

- AMBASSADORS

I WANT TO THINK THROUGH WHAT IT MEANS TO SEE THE PEOPLE AROUND US, THE WAY JESUS DOES.

MATTHEW 9:35-38 PAGE #680

WHAT DOES JESUS MEAN WHEN HE SAYS:

Matthew 9:36

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

SERIES LOGO SLIDE HERE

JESUS DESCRIBES HOW PEOPLE DON'T BELIEVE HE IS GOD AND DON'T FOLLOW HIM, IN SEVERAL DIFFERENT WAYS:

- PEOPLE WHO REJECT HIM
- ENEMIES OF GOD IN THEIR HEARTS
- REBELLIOUS

AND HE LOOKS AT THESE PEOPLE AND SEES THEM WITH COMPASSION, NOT CONTEMPT.

THEN HE LOOKS AT HIS DISCIPLES AND SAYS:

Matthew 9:37-38

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."

SERIES LOGO SLIDE HERE

WHAT ARE THESE WORKERS LIKE?

THEY ARE WORKERS WHO VIEW THE "HARVEST" WITH COMPASSION, REALIZING THAT THESE "LOST" PEOPLE ARE HARASSED AND HELPLESS... LIKE SHEEP WITHOUT A SHEPHERD.

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO VIEW SOMEONE WITH COMPASSION... AND HELP THEM FIND THEIR WAY TO CHRIST?

A COMPASSIONATE CHRIST FOLLOWER WHO SEES:

ECONOMIC INEQUALITY

ECONOMIC EQUALITY IS NOT EVERYONE HAVING WHAT EVERYONE ELSE HAS.

- IT IS SHARING OUR ABUNDANCE TO MEET THE NEEDS OF OTHERS.

BELOW: 3 SLIDES (1 slide per verse)

2 Corinthians 8:13-15

Our desire is not that others might be relieved while you are hard pressed, but that there might be equality.

At the present time your plenty will supply what they need, so that in turn their plenty will supply what you need. The goal is equality,

as it is written: "The one who gathered much did not have too much, and the one who gathered little did not have too little."

SERIES LOGO SLIDE HERE

SIMPLY LOVING MY NEIGHBOR AS MYSELF –

I WANT TO EAT.

I WANT TO LIVE SAFELY.

I WANT TO KNOW CHRIST.

MONEY IS NOT ALWAYS THE ANSWER... BUT SOMETIMES IT IS, GOD SAYS:

1 Timothy 6:17-19

Teach those who are rich in this world not to be proud and not to trust in their money, which is so unreliable. Their trust should be in God, who richly gives us all we need for our **enjoyment**. Tell them to use their money to do good. They should be rich in good works and **generous to those in need, always being ready to share** with others. By doing this they will be storing up their treasure as a good foundation for the future so that they may experience true life.

A COMPASSIONATE CHRIST FOLLOWER SEES:

BELOW: 1 SLIDE 2 CLICKS

INJUSTICE

Micah 6:8

He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord **require** of you? To **act justly** and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.

CHRIST FOLLOWERS SHOULD BE KNOWN FOR THEIR COMMITMENT TO ACT JUSTLY AND ADVOCATE FOR JUSTICE FOR ALL PEOPLE.

SERIES LOGO SLIDE HERE

THE PEOPLE WITH THE LEAST ACCESS TO JUSTICE ARE OFTEN POWERLESS.

- RELATIONALLY POWERLESS
 - FATHERLESS CHILDREN
 - SEX TRAFFICKING
 - FOSTER KIDS
- FINANCIALLY POWERLESS
 - POOR NEIGHBORHOODS ARE MORE VIOLENT.
 - POOR SCHOOLS ARE NOT AS GOOD.
 - POOR PEOPLE DO NOT GET AS GOOD LEGAL HELP.
- SPIRITUALLY POWERLESS
 - NO ACCESS TO THE GOSPEL
 - GODLESS CULTURE

THE COMPASSIONATE CHRIST FOLLOWER SEES ALL THESE AND DOES WHATEVER IS IN THEIR POWER TO BRING “GOD-LIKE JUSTICE” TO THE LIVES OF THOSE PEOPLE *AND PLACES* WHERE HOPE IS HARD TO FIND.

A COMPASSIONATE CHRIST FOLLOWER SEES:

BELOW: 1 SLIDE 2 CLICKS

OTHER’S BURDENS

Galatians 6:2

Carry each other’s burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.

CARRY = BARROS GREEK = CRUSHING WEIGHT

SERIES LOGO SLIDE HERE

A COMPASSIONATE CHRIST FOLLOWER SEES THE CRUSHING WEIGHT IN PEOPLE’S LIVES:

- FINANCIAL
- HEALTH
- ADDICTIONS
- LACK OF KNOWLEDGE ABOUT CHRIST
- LACK OF BIBLICAL KNOWLEDGE
 - I HAVE NEVER SEEN A GOOD MARRIAGE.
 - I HAVE NEVER KNOWN MY DAD.

A COMPASSIONATE CHRIST FOLLOWER REALIZES HOW “HARASSED AND HELPLESS” THAT WOULD MAKE A PERSON...

- NOT JUST GETTING YOUR ACT TOGETHER
- NOT A COLD, IMPERSONAL ANSWER LEARNED IN A TEXTBOOK OR FROM TALK RADIO

BUT HUMAN HEART TO HUMAN HEART... LOVING AND ENGAGED ---- HELPING TO CARRY THE CRUSHING WEIGHT.

FINALLY, MOST IMPORTANTLY: A COMPASSIONATE CHRIST FOLLOWER SEES:

Below: 1 SLIDE 2 CLICKS

THE HARVEST FIELD

Matthew 28:19

Therefore **go** and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

CHRIST FOLLOWERS DON'T HIDE.

CHRIST FOLLOWERS DON'T ANALYZE FROM AFAR.

CHRIST FOLLOWERS DON'T RESENT.

CHRIST FOLLOWERS DON'T TRY TO SAVE THE TEMPORAL.

SERIES LOGO SLIDE HERE

CHRIST FOLLOWERS, STRIVE TO HAVE THE MINDSET OF CHRIST HIMSELF:

PHILIPPIANS 2: 5-8

⁵ In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:

⁶ Who, being in very nature God,

did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage;

⁷ rather, he made himself nothing

by taking the very nature of a servant,

being made in human likeness.

⁸ And being found in appearance as a man,

he humbled himself

by becoming obedient to death—

even death on a cross!

HAVING THESE VIEWS OF THE WORLD AROUND US IS DIFFICULT BECAUSE WE INTERPRET LIFE THROUGH OUR PERSONAL EXPERIENCES...

STARE AT NEO –

COLD, SUNSHINE, FOOTBALL TEAM, SUPERSTAR BASKET BALL ☺

GOD SEES THE WORLD HOLISTICALLY –

OTHER PARTS OF THE GLOBE

OTHER PARTS OF THE COUNTRY
OTHER PARTS OF THE TOWN

BELOW: 1 SLIDE 3 CLICKS

"GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD"

WORLD = EVERYONE NOT ME

GO

WE ARE CALLED TO LOVE LIKE CHRIST --- SO WE MUST "GO"

- TO THE LOST, HURTING, NATIONS, RACES, CULTURES, ECONOMIC, STRUGGLING....

I WANT TO BE HELPFUL HERE...

THE "IF" QUESTION IS ANSWERED...

SO, LET'S ASK "HOW" QUESTIONS.

(I LOVE THIS QUOTE FROM STANLEY..."DO FOR ONE WHAT YOU WISH YOU
COULD DO FOR ALL.")

** THE BIGGER STUFF WE WILL DO TOGETHER (FMSC, URBAN, REHAB...)

HOW CAN I HELP BEAR A BURDEN?

HOW SHOULD I GO?

** I BET YOU THE ANSWERS ARE FOUND IN YOUR THREE.