



Part 5: Compassion

Pastor Grant Fishbook

August 28 & 29

The Parable of the Good Samaritan : Luke 10:25-37

²⁵ On one occasion an expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he asked, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?"

²⁶ "What is written in the Law?" he replied. "How do you read it?"

²⁷ He answered: "'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind"; and, 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'"

²⁸ "You have answered correctly," Jesus replied. "Do this and you will live."

²⁹ But he wanted to justify himself, so he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?"

³⁰ In reply Jesus said: "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, when he fell into the hands of robbers. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him and went away, leaving him half dead. ³¹ A priest happened to be going down the same road, and when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. ³² So too, a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side.

Indifference is the conscious decision to sidestep an authentic need.

³³ But a Samaritan, as he traveled, came where the man was; and when he saw him, he took pity on him. ³⁴ He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he put the man on his own donkey, took him to an inn and took care of him. ³⁵ The next day he took out two silver coins and gave them to the innkeeper. 'Look after him,' he said, 'and when I return, I will reimburse you for any extra expense you may have.'

Compassion is the response that triggers action.

³⁶ "Which of these three do you think was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?" ³⁷ The expert in the law replied, "The one who had mercy on him." Jesus told him, "Go and do likewise."

Why does Jesus' plea for compassion matter so much to us?

We are the man in the road.

Communion is a reflection of the compassion of Jesus:

This is my body which is broken for you.

1 Corinthians 11:17-34

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Next Steps

Don't look away. Opportunities to show compassion surround us. We see ads on TV, in magazines, here at CTK, even on Facebook – all reminding us that human need never takes a vacation. When you see one of these opportunities, resist the urge to change the channel or turn the page. Instead, pray and ask God for direction on how you should respond.

If you're not in a position to help others financially, consider volunteering your time or talent here at church or in the community. Already volunteering? Please fill out our survey on the yellow insert in today's program.

Right here, right now—2 options at CTK:

Donate to the CTK Food Bank. One of the simplest and most immediate ways you can show compassion is by donating to the CTK Food Bank. Along with the specific non-perishable foods listed by the drop box in the Commons, the Food Bank also welcomes your excess garden harvest to supplement what is being grown by the CTK Harvest Ministry.

Sponsor a Child. You can also sponsor a child through opportunities here at CTK (see below). We regularly publish photos of children in need who often wait weeks for sponsorship. But, imagine the impact if we had a waiting list of *sponsors*, ready to respond when we learn of children in need! If you'd like to be on this list, sign up today at the Connection Point or contact Wendy Powell at wendyp@ctkbellingham.com or 733-13237 x212.



Biva Das

Biva Das is a new resident at the Keshiary Orphanage in West Bengal, India and she needs a sponsor. This orphanage is fully supported by CTK and provides children with food, clothing, shelter, an education, medical attention, love, stability, and the Gospel. Sponsorship is just \$35 a month and 100% of that goes directly to the home for that child's needs.

Small Group & Personal Reflection Questions



- 1) What has been the highlight of your summer so far? Why?
- 2) What is your honest response to people who hold a sign and ask for help on the street corners of Bellingham?
 - a. I avoid eye contact and keep going
 - b. I question the validity of their need
 - c. I stop and talk
 - d. I give money
 - e. I give them food or clothing
 - f. I pray and keep going
 - g. Other
- 3) How does the story of the Good Samaritan affect your response to question #2?
- 4) How do you practically live out the request of Jesus to "Go, and do likewise"?
- 5) How has the compassion of another individual changed your life?
- 6) How can we pray for you tonight?