



“When the Lord
saw her, He had
compassion on
her...” – Luke 7:13



Compassion

What does it mean to be compassionate?

- Def. – a feeling of deep sympathy and sorrow for another's distress, accompanied by a strong desire to alleviate the suffering.
- English = derived from 'com-' (with/together) + '-path' (to suffer) = to suffer with
- Greek = *splagchnizomai*





Challenges to Compassion

1. Judging/Weighing people
2. “Your suffering isn’t serious”
3. “You contributed to your problem”
4. “You’re acting like a victim”
5. “If I’m compassionate...”



Examples of Compassion

Grieving

The weary and scattered

- Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people. 36 **But when He saw the multitudes, He was moved with compassion for them**, because they were weary and scattered, like sheep having no shepherd. 37 Then He said to His disciples, **“The harvest truly is plentiful, but the laborers are few. 38 Therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest.”** (Lk. 9:35-38)

Examples of Compassion

Sick

- “And when Jesus went out He saw a great multitude; and He was moved with compassion for them, and healed their sick.” (Matt. 14:14)

Those in need

- Now Jesus called His disciples to Himself and said, “I have compassion on the multitude, because they have now continued with Me three days and have nothing to eat. And I do not want to send them away hungry, lest they faint on the way.” (Matt. 15:32)

Examples of Compassion

Spiritually unclean

- Now a leper came to Him, imploring Him, kneeling down to Him and saying to Him, “If You are willing, You can make me clean.” 41 Then Jesus, moved with compassion, stretched out His hand and touched him, and said to him, “I am willing; be cleansed.” 42 As soon as He had spoken, immediately the leprosy left him, and he was cleansed. 43 And He strictly warned him and sent him away at once, 44 and said to him, “See that you say nothing to anyone; but go your way, show yourself to the priest, and offer for your cleansing those things which Moses commanded, as a testimony to them.” (Mk. 1:40-43)

Story of Abba Peomen