

SERMON DISCUSSION GROUP

ONE AT A TIME

While anyone can take time to answer these questions individually, these questions are best discussed in a group! Not in a group yet? We want you in one! Head over to southeastchristian.org to join a group in person or online, wherever you are - today!

We tend to think of compassion as an emotion; Jesus shows us that it is a verb. His compassion motivates us to bring hurting people near and give the outcast a place to belong.

Read Mark 1:40-45. In that day, lepers were considered “unclean” and “sinners.” People recoiled at the sight of them. Who are the lepers in our day? How does our world respond to them? As Jesus’ people today, how should we respond to them?

We know from other miracle accounts that Jesus could heal with only a word. So, why do you think He touched the leper? What difference do you think it made to that man? Can you think of a time when someone showed you compassion through touch? What difference did that make to you?

Mark Moore said one of his life mantras is, “People are not unlovely because they are unlovable, but because they are unloved.” Think about some of the people (or groups of people) you struggle to love. Have you taken the time to listen to their stories? Have you tried to make them feel loved? How might doing these things change your heart towards them?

Read Matthew 25:31-40. As Mark Moore reminded us, we can often find Jesus living among the least and the lost. What does this parable teach about that? In what way is serving the “least of these” really serving Jesus? How should this change the way we approach those opportunities to show compassion?

Showing compassion often requires connection and community. What are some ways you might invite hurting people to share in the life of your group/church? What are some ways you might invite them into your own life and family? How does connection and community meet some of our greatest needs?

What are some ways that compassion might cost us? How have you seen some of these costs in your own life? When you think about the price of compassion, are there any costs you are hesitant to pay? What keeps you from making those kinds of sacrifices?