

BIGGER THAN ME – WEEK 1

Compassion

“And behold a certain lawyer stood up and tested Jesus saying, ‘Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?’ Jesus said, ‘What is written in the law? What is your reading of it?’ So he answered and said, ‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, all your strength and with all your mind; and love your neighbor as yourself.’ And he said to him, ‘You’ve answered rightly. Do this and you will live.’ But he, [speaking of the lawyer] wanting to justify himself to Jesus said, ‘Who is my neighbor?’ Jesus answered and said, ‘A certain man went down from Jerusalem to Jericho, fell among thieves who stripped him of his clothing, wounded him, departed, left him half dead. Now by chance a certain priest came down that road. When he saw him he passed by on the other side. Likewise a Levite, when he arrived at the place, gave a look, passed by on the other side. But a certain Samaritan came where he was. When he saw him he had compassion. So he went to him, bandaged his wounds, poured on oil and wine, set him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, took care of him and on the next day when he departed he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper and said, ‘Take care of him. And whatever more you spend when I come again, I will repay you.’ So which of these three do you think was neighbor to him who fell among the thieves?’ And he said, ‘He who showed mercy on him.’ And Jesus said to him, ‘Go and do likewise.’” – Luke 10:25-37

“A certain man went down from Jerusalem to Jericho and fell among thieves and was stripped of his clothing, wounded and was left half dead.” – Luke 10:30

Five Things Revolutionary Christians Do Who Display Radical Compassion:

- 1. Revolutionary Christians with radical compassion never forget the pain of when they were rescued.**

“My dear friends, if you know people who have wandered off from God’s truths don’t write them off. Go after them. Get them back and you will have rescued precious lives from destruction and prevented an epidemic of wandering away from God.” – James 5:19

- 2. People who never forget that turning the hearts of others is their business.**

“Rescue the perishing. Don’t hesitate to step in and help. If you say, ‘That’s none of my business,’ will that get you off the hook?” – Proverbs 24:11-12

“I’ve come to build my church and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.” – Matthew 16:18

- 3. Revolutionary Believers who display radical compassion, never forget to allow themselves to be emotionally and spiritually moved by the condition of others.**
-

“A certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was; and when he saw him, he had compassion.” – Luke 10:33

“Above all else, guard your heart because it determines the course of your life.” – Proverbs 4:23

“Take the stones and engrave on them the names of the twelve tribes of Israel. Fasten them on your shoulder pieces as a reminder that Aaron represents the people of Israel. Aaron will carry the names on his shoulders as a constant reminder whenever he goes before the Lord. In this way, Aaron will carry the names of the tribes of Israel also on the sacred chest piece over his heart when he goes into the holy place. This will be a continual reminder that he represents the people when he comes before the Lord.” – Exodus 28:9, 12-29

4. Revolutionary Believers who display radical compassion never forget the risk, their reputation and comfort zone to love people back to life.

“So he went to him, bandaged his wounds, poured on oil and wine and set him on his own animal and led him to an inn and took care of him.” – Luke 10:24

People need to know not just how much you know but how much you care. Risk is a form of love.

5. Revolutionary leaders who display radical compassion never forget to use their resources to restore others back to life.

“So the next day when he departed, he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper and said, ‘Take care of him and whatever more you spend when I come again I will repay you.’” – Luke 10:35

“Because when I come back, because I am coming back, I will repay you. I will repay you back every single penny.” – Luke 10:35

“You cannot put your new wine into old wine skins. It will burst the wine skin.” – Matthew 9:17

My Declaration to Love People Back to Life Again

I will love people regardless of color, regardless of creed, or past deeds. I will pursue every prompting of the Holy Spirit regardless of the personal cost or loss of comfort to me. I will give whatever it takes to rescue and restore people who have been broken, bruised and victimized. I will no longer fear darkness but instead I will have faith that the life in me is enough to penetrate the darkness that is around me. I will admit that the church is not just a place for the socially accepted. Neither is it a country club for Christians to desire to simply dwell with those of their own kind. I believe the church is the hospital for the sick, the refuge for the rejected, and the life university that prepares leaders to impact their society. This is my declaration: to love people back to life again. This is how I will serve my generation until Jesus comes back again.
