

thegoodlife

a life of compassion

24 April
2016

Key Texts
Matthew 9:36, 15:32
Luke 4:14-30

Thinking & talking through the biblical text during the week helps turn what God is saying into action steps. Here are some questions to get you started.

Reflection Questions

- What questions and comments do you have about the sermon and supporting texts?

Read Luke 4:14-30

- How do you define “compassion”?
- Is “big-heartedness” a good synonym? Why or why not? What’s another synonym you might use?
- What are the characteristics of a compassionate person like?
- In the **Luke 4** passage, what items refer to compassion?
- What did compassion look like in Jesus’ life (what examples from Jesus’ life can you identify)?
- What type(s) of people do you find it easy to show compassion to? What type(s) of people do you find it more difficult to show compassion to? Why is this?
- Why are we sometimes (often?) selectively compassionate?
- How do compassion and acting for justice fit together? Why do you think we often put these in separate compartments? How did Jesus bring them together?
- In the sermon pastor Mike talked about things that **shrink** our heart:
 - When we reduce the gospel to only a spiritual message
 - When we reduce the gospel to only a material message
 - When we reduce God’s mercy to only people like us
- Which of these 3 most reflects your thinking?
- Why do you think you find yourself thinking that way?
- We also looked at things that **grow** our hearts:
 - When we see ourselves as potentially needy
 - When we get near to the suffering
 - When we help someone out
- Which one of these 3 is most difficult for you? Why?
- What is the difference between “conversion” and “transformation”?
- Why do so many tend to focus on the first and not the second?
- Is it possible to live the Good Life without being compassionate? Why or why not?
- How do you respond to the statement:
Living the Good Life is holistic – integrated living.