

“The Compassion Of Jesus”
Mark 7:24-8:10
6/16/24
Message 18

Introduction

- Title Of The Message: “The Compassion Of Jesus”

- **Illustration – We All Need Compassion**

- **An Elderly woman by the name of Mary**

- Made MANY trips to the local post office
 - On One day she faced a long line
 - Mary ONLY needed stamps
 - So a helpful observer asked,
 - “Why don’t you use the stamp machine?”
 - You can get all the stamps you need and you won’t have to stand in line.”
 - Mary said,
 - “I know, but the machine can’t ask me about my arthritis.”

- **Many Years in the Restaurant Business**

- I ran across a lot of “Mary’s”
 - People still need...
 - Human Contact
 - Need a word of Encouragement

- People NEED Compassion
- **Jesus is the Master in giving Compassion**
 - The Word - Compassion
 - Greek: Splagchnízomai
 - Means:
 - To feel deeply or to yearn, have compassion, pity.
 - Indicates an inner feeling and is frequently recorded of Christ's attitude toward multitudes and individuals.

Lamentations 3:22 (NKJV)

22 Through the LORD's mercies we are not consumed, Because His compassions fail not.

Psalms 145:8 (NKJV)

8 The LORD is gracious and full of compassion, Slow to anger and great in mercy.

- The Greatest Expression of Compassion was on the CROSS

Hebrews 12:2 (NKJV)

2 looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

- How About You – Do you need a special touch of His Compassion today?!
 - I sure do

• Review –

- **Chapter 6**
 - **1st The Cost Of Being A Disciple (Mark 6:1-13)**

- The Rejection That Can Happen vs. 1-6
- The Reliance On Jesus That Is Needed vs. 7-13
- **2nd Discipleship Means Trusting Jesus (Mark 6:14-56)**
 - Trusting Jesus By Dedication Our Life To Him Even If It Means Death vs. 14-29
 - Trusting Jesus To Meet Our Daily Needs vs. 30-44
 - Trusting Jesus In Difficult Circumstances vs. 45-56
- **3rd Discipleship Means Keeping Your Eyes On Jesus (Mark 6:45-52 & Matthew 14:22-33)**
 - The Example Jesus Gives On The Importance Of Prayer (Matthew 14:22-23)
 - The Disciples Experience In The Storm (Matthew 14:24-26)
 - The Encouragement Jesus Gives Us in The Storm (Matthew 14:27)
 - Peter's Encounter With Jesus On The Water (Matthew 14:28-31)
 - They Finally Believe the Extent Of His Power (Matthew 14:32-33)
- **Last Week - Chapter 7**
 - **Truly Clean**
 - The Criticism From The Pharisees vs. 1-5
 - The Disciples did not Ceremonially Wash

- The Correction That Jesus Gives vs. 6-13
 - Jesus Corrects their behavior

Mark 7:6–7 (NKJV)

6 He answered and said to them, “*Well did Isaiah prophesy of you hypocrites, as it is written: ‘This people honors Me with their lips, But their heart is far from Me.*

7 *And in vain they worship Me, Teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.’*

- The Challenge Jesus Gives vs. 14-16
 - The HEART is the Issue
 - Born SINNERS
- The Confusion Of His Disciples vs. 17-23
 - Jesus Cleared up His Disciples Confusion
 - Letting them know that ALL sins start in the heart

• Now This Morning we will see 3 Wonderful Examples of Jesus’ Compassion

- Seen In Hearing The Plea Of The Gentile Mother vs. 24-30
- Seen In Healing Of The Deaf-Mute vs. 31-37
- Seen In His Heart For Multitudes (8:1-10)

Seen In Hearing The Plea Of The Gentile Mother vs. 24-30

• First: A Desire To Come to Jesus v. 24-25

- 1st From There He Arose v. 24a

Mark 7:24 (NKJV)

24 From there He arose and went to the region of Tyre and Sidon. And He entered a house and wanted no one to know it, but He could not be hidden.

- Tyre and Sidon

- Jesus traveled some 50 miles to the north to visit these Gentile cities

- **Show Maps**

- They are on the Coast of modern Lebanon
- This is the land of the ancient Phoenicians
 - An empire that once flourished a thousand years before Jesus
 - But had been pretty much leveled by Alexander the Great in 332 BC.
- **2nd He entered a house and wanted no one to know it v. 24b**

Mark 7:24 (NKJV)

24 From there He arose and went to the region of Tyre and Sidon. And He entered a house and wanted no one to know it, but He could not be hidden.

- **Wanted No One To Know It**

- Jesus really didn't want anyone knowing where He was staying.
- It Appears that Jesus went there to GET AWAY from the crowds.
- To have SOME Family time with His Disciples

- **But He could not be hidden**

- It is a glorious principle –
 - Jesus cannot be hidden.
 - He finds a way to touch lives

- Because He cannot be hidden.

- **Application**

- Jesus Should NOT BE HIDDEN IN US
- BUT He must shine through
- The Spiritual Temperature should go up every place we go

- **3rd She came and fell at His feet v. 25**

Mark 7:25 (NKJV)

25 For a woman whose young daughter had an unclean spirit heard about Him, and she came and fell at His feet.

- **Young Mom Comes to Jesus For Help**

- Her Daughter - Unclean Spirit
 - Greek: Akathartos –
 - Means: Not cleansed, unclean.
 - This young girl was **Possessed by a Demon**
- She is desperate
 - Seeking the ONLY hope for Daughter – Jesus

- **She Fell At His Feet – Worshiped**

- Let's take a look at Matthew account

Matthew 15:22–25 (NKJV)

22 And behold, a woman of Canaan came from that region and cried out to Him, saying, "Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David! My daughter is severely demon-possessed."

23 But He answered her not a word. And His disciples came and urged Him, saying, "Send her away, for she cries out after us."

24 But He answered and said, *"I was not sent except to the lost sheep of the house of Israel."*

25 *Then she came and worshiped Him, saying, "Lord, help me!"*

- **Note – She Worshiped before the Healing**

- **Application**

- Worship in the storm
- Illustration
 - Exodus 14 –
 - Children of Israel find themselves boxed in
 - Complaining – Kill Moses
 - Exodus 15 –
 - God parts the Waters –
 - They make it to the other side
 - The worship celebration
 - Suggest to you they worshipped on the wrong side
 - Easy to worship when God does the miracle – but what about before
 - Who are you more like – Israel or this gentile woman
 - Worshipped Him before her prayers were answered

- **Second: She is Determined v. 26**

- **1st The Women Was Greek v. 26**

Mark 7:26 (NKJV)

26 *The woman was a Greek, a Syro-Phoenician by birth, and she kept asking Him to cast the demon out of her daughter.*

▪ **Who this woman was**

- Matthew 15:22 - Canaanite
 - Briefly Explain
 - God told Israel to wipe OUT all the Canaanite because they were EVIL
- Greek – Hellenis –
 - She's a Gentile women, not a Jew
- Syro - Phoenician
 - She's a Phoenician from the area of Syria, the area around Tyre and Sidon (as opposed to the Phoenicians that lived in North Africa).

▪ **Application**

- **Everything was AGAINST this woman**
 - **1st Her Nationality was against her**
 - **2nd She was a Woman in a male dominated world**
 - **3rd Satan was against her**
 - (One of his demons took control of his daughter)
 - **4th The disciples were against her**
 - The Snubbing Treatment!

- (Matthew 15:23 “Send her away, for she cries out after us”)

- Her noise annoyed them!

- 5th And for a time it even looked like Jesus was against her!

Matthew 15:24 (NKJV)

24 But He answered and said, *“I was not sent except to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.”*

- Jews First – Gentiles second

Romans 1:16 (NKJV)

16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek.

- **Third: She Is Dependent vs. 27-28**

- **1st Let the children be filled first, for it is not good to take the children’s bread and throw it to the little dogs v. 27**

Mark 7:27 (NKJV)

27 But Jesus said to her, *“Let the children be filled first, for it is not good to take the children’s bread and throw it to the little dogs.”*

- **Jesus seemed to discourage the woman**

- Reminding her that the children (the Disciple)
 - Get priority over the little dogs (Her)
- I don’t believe Jesus isn’t belittling Her or Gentiles
 - He’s simply telling the woman in language that she would understand
 - That His purpose was to Minister to His disciples.

- It wasn't appropriate to interrupt the family meal to feed the dogs.
- The Word for Dogs
 - Greek: Kunarion – A little dog.
 - Jesus **doesn't** use the word the Jews would normally use to describe the Gentiles as "dogs".
 - He uses "little dog".
- So It wasn't appropriate
 - To interrupt His ministry to His disciples for her!
- But Notice
 - This Does NOT Discourage her
 - Jesus' Answer - Actually Stirred UP her FAITH
- **2nd Yes, Lord, yet even the little dogs under the table eat from the children's crumbs v. 28**

Mark 7:28 (NKJV)

28 And she answered and said to Him, "Yes, Lord, yet even the little dogs under the table eat from the children's crumbs."

▪ **1st The Woman Responded with GREAT FAITH**

- YES SIR
 - Yes, Lord ("Sir," a title of respect).
 - The woman accepted Jesus' statement
 - She realized He had the right to refuse her request.

- BUT She kept asking Him to cast the demon out of her daughter.
 - Even though all of that was against her – she wouldn't leave
 - She Presses on
 - Even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs.
 - Her point was that the dogs get some food at the same time as the children and thus do not have to wait.

- **2nd Application**

- He is the rewarder of those who diligently seek him

Hebrews 11:6 (NKJV)

6 But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.

- The Persistent Widow (Luke 18:1-8)

Fourth: The Departure of The Demon vs. 29-30

- **1st Then He Said To Her v. 29**

Mark 7:29 (NKJV)

29 Then He said to her, *"For this saying go your way; the demon has gone out of your daughter."*

- **Gone OUT**

- Perfect tense.
 - The demon had left and would stay gone.

- Jesus had cast the demon out of the little girl without being with the little girl or without even saying a word.

○ **2nd And When She Came Home v. 30**

Mark 7:30 (NKJV)

30 *And when she had come to her house, she found the demon gone out, and her daughter lying on the bed.*

- **Matthew gives us another clue of just what was at work here**

Matthew 15:28 (NKJV)

28 *Then Jesus answered and said to her, **“O woman, great is your faith! Let it be to you as you desire.”** And her daughter was healed from that very hour.*

- She wasn't just a “pushy” woman.
- She was a woman of faith
- FAITH IN Jesus

• **Fifth: Application**

- Do you have a Sick Child
- Do you have Prodigal
- Do you NEED the COMPASSION of Jesus to HEAL?!
- Then Ask God and KEEP ASKING!

Seen In The Healing Of The Deaf-Mute vs. 31-37

• **First: The Actions Of Christ vs. 31-33**

- **1st They begged Him to put His hand on him v. 31-32**
 - **1st Again Departing v. 31**

Mark 7:31 (NKJV)

31 *Again, departing from the region of Tyre and Sidon, He came through the midst of the region of Decapolis to the Sea of Galilee.*

- To the Decapolis

- **Show Map**

- Jesus is circling around the area of Galilee.
- It Appears attempting to avoid the places where He's had the big crowds.

- **2nd Then They Brought to Him v. 32**

Mark 7:32 (NKJV)

32 *Then they brought to Him one who was deaf and had an impediment in his speech, and they begged Him to put His hand on him.*

- The friends of this troubled man came and brought his need to Jesus.
 - An Example of intercession
- Application
 - Are we interceding (Praying) for our friends
- **2nd He took him aside... put His fingers in his ears, and He spat and touched his tongue v. 33**

Mark 7:33 (NKJV)

33 *And He took him aside from the multitude, and put His fingers in his ears, and He spat and touched his tongue.*

- **Jesus used a curious manner in healing this man.**

- Maybe using SIGN LANGUAGE
- NOTE
 - Jesus used many different ways of healing.

- He healed with a word
- Healed without a word
- Healed in response to one's faith
- Healed in response to the faith of another
- Healed those who asked
- Healed those He approached.
- Jesus didn't want to be tied down to any "one method" to show that His power was not dependent on any method but on the sovereign power of God.

• **Second: The Authority Of His Words vs. 34-35**

- **1st Looking Up To Heaven He sighed v. 34**

Mark 7:34 (NKJV)

34 Then, looking up to heaven, He sighed, and said to him, "*Eph-pha-tha,*" that is, "*Be opened.*"

▪ **Eph-pha-tha –**

- Jesus speaks Aramaic here
- The word meaning "Be Opened!"

▪ **He Sighed – Greek: Stenazo –**

- Means: A sigh or groan of grief.
- This word (Stenazo) is found 6 times in the New Testament.

- **1st How NOT to Sigh (Groaning)**

Hebrews 13:17 (NKJV)

17 Obey those who rule over you, and be submissive, for they watch out for your souls, as those who must give account. Let them do so with joy and not with (**grief Stenazo**), for that would be unprofitable for you.

- And James 5:9

James 5:9 (NKJV)

9 Do not (**grumble Stenazo**) against one another, brethren, lest you be condemned. Behold, the Judge is standing at the door!

- **2nd What we ought to be “groaning” or “sighing” over!**

- It's fascinating to see that they all have something in common:

Romans 8:23 (NKJV)

23 Not only that, but we also who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves (**groan Stenazo**) within ourselves, eagerly waiting for the adoption, the redemption of our body.

2 Corinthians 5:2 (NKJV)

2 For in this we (**groan Stenazo**), earnestly desiring to be clothed with our habitation which is from heaven,

2 Corinthians 5:4 (NKJV)

4 For we who are in this tent (**groan Stenazo**), being burdened, not because we want to be unclothed, but further clothed, that mortality may be swallowed up by life.

- All three talk about the “groaning” of being in our present, broken down bodies
- Looking forward to the time when we will have a new body.
- **Why Is Jesus GROANING**
 - Maybe - Groaning over the weakness of these frail, human bodies, looking forward to the new body.

- Wiersbe “The ‘sigh’ was an inward groan, our Lord’s compassionate response to the pain and sorrow sin has brought into the world. It was also a prayer to the Father on behalf of the handicapped man.

- **2nd Immediately his ears were opened v. 35**

Mark 7:35 (NKJV)

35 *Immediately his ears were opened, and the impediment of his tongue was loosed, and he spoke plainly.*

- The man obtained normal hearing and speech **immediately**

• **Third: The Crowd Was Astonished vs. 36-37**

- **1st He has done all things well: vs. 36-37**

Mark 7:36–37 (NKJV)

36 *Then He commanded them that they should tell no one; but the more He commanded them, the more widely they proclaimed it.*
37 *And they were astonished beyond measure, saying, “He has done all things well. He makes both the deaf to hear and the mute to speak.”*

- **Don’t Tell anyone**

- But that did not go well

- **Astonished –**

- Greek: Ekplesso –
- Means: To strike out; we would say “they were totally blown away ...”

- **Beyond Measure**

- Greek: Huperperissos
- Means: (“over” + “beyond measure”)

- **There is a Prophecy**

- It is being fulfilled here about the Messiah, and it may be that the people have this in mind

Isaiah 35:4–6 (NKJV)

4 Say to those who are fearful-hearted, "Be strong, do not fear! Behold, your God will come with vengeance, With the recompense of God; He will come and save you."

5 Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, And the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped.

6 Then the lame shall leap like a deer, And the tongue of the dumb sing. For waters shall burst forth in the wilderness, And streams in the desert.

▪ **Jesus does things well.**

- There is no shoddy, slip-shod work with Him.
- It is true of Creation
- But it is even truer of His work of Redemption.

• **Application: Easy**

○ **Jesus has come to OPEN the EARS of ALL those who cant HEAR (SALVATION)**

- Then after our EARS are OPEN – SPEAK His Gospel message

○ **How about you today**

- Your saved
- BUT you have allowed your flesh to creep back in
- Maybe you have even started to close your ears to what Jesus is saying to you
- As a result – your not opening your mouth to praise Him or share HIM

- Know This – Confess your sins – Ask Jesus to have COMPASSION on you and heal

1 John 1:9 (NKJV)

9 *If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.*

Seen In His Heart For Multitudes (8:1-10)

• **First: The Situation They Faced v. 1**

○ **1st In Those Days (8:1)**

Mark 8:1 (NKJV)

1 *In those days, the multitude being very great and having nothing to eat, Jesus called His disciples to Him and said to them,*

- Again –

- We see a GREAT Multitude
- We see there is nothing to eat
- We see Jesus Calling His Disciples

○ **2nd Clear up any Confusion**

- **Some Believe that this show the Bible is full of contradictions?!**

- I thought it was a feeding of 5000 not 4000???
- Answer - These are simply 2 different events.

- Note some of the differences.

- Feeding 5000 took place on the Western shore of Galilee
 - Feeding 4000 on the Eastern shore.

- Feeding 5000 involved predominantly Jews
 - Feeding 4000 involved predominantly Gentiles.
- Feeding 5000 involved 5 loaves & 2 fish
 - Feeding 4000 involved 7 loaves & a few fish.
- Feeding 5000 the people had been with Him 1 day
 - Feeding 4000 the people had been with Him 3 days.
- Feeding 5000 had 12 little baskets of fragments left over
 - [Greek: Kophinos; small wicker baskets]
 - Feeding 4000 had 7 large baskets of fragments left over.
 - Greek: Spuris; large hamper / Acts 9:25
- Feeding 5000 Jesus prayed ONCE
 - Feeding 4000 Jesus prayed 2 times over the bread & fish.
- The amount of the 2 crowds were different (5000 & 4000)
- Jesus says it was 2 different events!!! (Mark 8:19-20)

• **Second: The Sympathy (Compassion) Of Jesus vs. 2-3**

- **1st I have compassion on the multitude: vs. 2-**

Mark 8:2–3 (NKJV)

2 *"I have compassion on the multitude, because they have now continued with Me three days and have nothing to eat.*

3 *And if I send them away hungry to their own houses, they will faint on the way; for some of them have come from afar.”*

- **3 DAYS**

- WOW they are wanting to be with Jesus
- Nothing to eat for 3 days

- **If I send Them Away**

- They may not make it home
- Jesus, You did this before. You can do the same kind of work again.”
- Jesus hoped they would regard His past faithfulness as a promise to meet their present need.

- **Third: The Solution To the Problem vs. 4-10**

- **1st How many loaves do you have? Vs. 4-5**

Mark 8:4–5 (NKJV)

4 *Then His disciples answered Him, “How can one satisfy these people with bread here in the wilderness?”*

5 *He asked them, “**How many loaves do you have?**” And they said, “Seven.”*

- **FAILED**

- The Disciples sound like a broken record

- **Jesus asked**

- How Many Loaves them to give up their own food this time. Before they used the food of the little boy, but this time Jesus made the disciples give.

- **2nd So He commanded the multitude to sit down vs. 6-10**

Mark 8:6–10 (NKJV)

6 *So He commanded the multitude to sit down on the ground. And He took the seven loaves and gave thanks, broke them and gave them to His disciples to set before them; and they set them before the multitude.*

7 *They also had a few small fish; and having blessed them, He said to set them also before them.*

8 *So they ate and were filled, and they took up seven large baskets of leftover fragments.*

9 *Now those who had eaten were about four thousand. And He sent them away,*

10 *immediately got into the boat with His disciples, and came to the region of Dalmanutha.*

▪ **Broke them and gave them to the His disciples to set before them:**

- Jesus did what He only could do – the creative miracle.
- But Jesus left to the disciples to do what they could do – the distribution of the bread.

▪ **They also had a few small fish:**

- It seems that the disciples kept the fish from Jesus until they saw He could multiply the bread.
- They needed to see that we are safe giving everything to Jesus.

▪ **So they ate and were filled, and they took up seven large baskets of leftover fragments:**

- At the end of the meal, they gathered more bread than they had to begin with.
- This was miraculous provision.
- The seven large baskets showed that God provided out of His abundance.

- **Application:**

- How many are attempting to live the Christian Life in your own Power –
 - 7 Loaves and a few Fish?
- How Many are doing ministry –
 - Looking only at the 7 and few fish?
- Jesus wants to show you how GREAT He is
 - He will Provide

Closing

- Oh How We need the Compassion of Jesus
 - 1st We NEED His Compassion with Our Kids
 - 2nd We NEED His Compassion – In Salvation
 - 3rd We NEED His Compassion – In our Spiritual and Ministry Lives