

Compassion

1 John 3:10-24

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To claim to be a follower of Jesus and refuse to obey His instructions about love are a contradiction that ought to cause serious doubts in our hearts.

Sympathy – “...being moved by someone else’s sorrow and pain in a way that shows at least some measure of understanding.”

Empathy – “...the ‘feeling in’ that one person can feel for another who is in pain, because they know what it’s like to go through the same experience.”

Compassion – “...being moved by someone else’s sorrow and pain in a way that motivates action to help the sufferer.”

- I. We all want to be loved, especially by Jesus (16)
- II. We all learn how to love by studying Jesus

There are several stories of Jesus that always create amazement in my heart. In each account Jesus crosses paths with a man or woman who are considered unworthy, untouchable or unlovable and yet He responds compassionately.

- His physical encounters with lepers
- His reaction to the adulterous woman
- His conversation with Zacchaeus
- His intervention for the demon possessed

- III. We all live out God’s love by loving people

So What?

- Do I care the way Jesus cares?
- Do I help the way Jesus helps?
- Do I give the way Jesus gives?
- Do I forgive the way Jesus forgives?

“If Christian parents love, serve, and reach out to people, they will, in most cases, produce children who love, serve, and reach out to help others.” (Love or Die, Alexander Strauch)

“I just think if you claim to have walked with God for a long time, 10 years onward you should be soft, pliable. Humility, love, and kindness should almost be pouring out of your veins.”