

Adult Study Guide for May 9, 2021
Series: *No More Bogus Jesus*; Message: *Compassion*

Goal: To find ways to comfort those around you with the comfort you have received from God.

Key Verses: *Jesus had compassion on them and touched their eyes. Immediately they received their sight and followed him.* – Matthew 20:34 (NIV)

1. When was the last you felt comforted by another person? What did they do to make you feel better? (It may help to think back to the day when your mother comforted you, especially since this is Mother's Day.) What are the best practices that you have learned for comforting others? Read Ecclesiastes 4:1. What happens when no one is around to comfort the oppressed?

2. Review the three stories about the ministry of Jesus in Matthew 20:30, 32-34; Mark 1:40-42; and Luke 7:12-15. What do these stories have in common? What do these stories teach us about Jesus?

3. Take a look at the three stories again. What difference did the touch of Jesus make in each story? How does it change your view of God to know that God became human and was physically present in the midst of people who were suffering?

4. Pastor Austin mentioned three attributes of a person with compassion: 1) Slow down, 2) Expect a mess, and 3) Be open to an interruption. How could each of these actions help you to show more compassion?

5. Read Galatians 6:9-10. Why is it so easy to experience compassion fatigue when we are called to care for others? What do we need to do to hang in there? Read Galatians 6:2. How does bearing each other's burdens fulfill the law of Christ?

6. Read 2 Corinthians 1:3-7. How does giving comfort start a ripple effect? How can you ride the wave? Pray for eyes to see the opportunities that God is giving you to make a difference in the world.