

Jesus' Compassion

Description

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Matthew 9:27-38

What makes Jesus feel compassion?

Matthew gives us a few glimpses into the moments in which Jesus feels compassion—all of which are centered around human need— but this one is the first. We learn that Jesus feels compassion for people who are “harassed and helpless” (9:36). He even adds a metaphor: these people are like sheep wandering around with no one to guide them!

Harassed and helpless. The words Matthew uses here can be literally translated as “troubled” and “cast aside.” Who are the people you know who are troubled? Who has been cast aside and forgotten? Who is left out, directionless, lost? These are the people for whom Jesus has compassion. Now how do you suppose Jesus would want us to treat the people for whom He has compassion? If we love and serve Jesus, our priority should always be to care about what He cares about, and to have compassion for the same people for whom He has compassion.

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