

COMPELLED BY COMPASSION

Mark 6:30-34

EZ ZWAYNE

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The questions below are designed to be used by Saylorville Church Cell Groups as they meet during the week following the Sunday morning message at Saylorville. The intent is not for groups to answer every question, but for leaders to use the questions as a guide as they tailor the discussion to the unique needs of their group. The Sunday message and these questions can be found each week at www.saylorvillechurch.com/sermons.

CONNECT WITH YOUR GROUP (10-15 MINUTES)

- If you had couples in your group that attended the Thrive Marriage Conference, ask them to share one or two takeaways from the conference.
- Who is the most compassionate person you know? Why do you say that?

APPLY THE BIBLE (45-60 MINUTES)

Intro:

- **Read** Mark 6:30-34 together. In the message on Sunday, EZ Zwayne challenged us to live a life compelled by compassion.
- Look back at the notes you took on Sunday. What is **one thing** that sticks out to you about what you heard (a new idea, an application, an illustration, a challenge, a question, or a new way of thinking)?
- Use this simple Bible study method to walk through the passage as a group, being sure to ask questions and get feedback along the way.

1. What do I see?

- **Who?** Who are the people in this passage? What do we know about them?
- **What?** What is happening in the context before this passage? How might that have impacted the characters in this story?
- **Where?** Where is this taking place? Where are the people in the story?
- **When?** When are these events taking place in the big picture of the New Testament?
- **Why?** Why is this story included in the Bible? Why did Jesus react the way He did?
- **How?** How does Jesus reveal Himself in this passage?

2. What does it mean?

- What did Jesus mean when he said “They are like sheep without a shepherd?”
- How might the original readers have understood this passage?

3. Where else is this taught?

- What do parallel or similar passages say about this event?
- Where else is the principle of compassion taught in Scripture?

4. How does it apply to me?

- EZ quoted C.S. Lewis as saying, “Loving everyone in general may be an excuse for loving no-one in particular.”
 - Have you met someone that says they love Jesus but don’t seem to love people. Do you?
 - Do you find yourself loving the masses but being frustrated with specific people?
 - Can people tell that you love them when you interact with them?
- EZ told a story about an online interaction with a young man named, “John.”
 - Are there any “Johns” in your life that you find difficult to love because they are so different from you?
 - What would it look like if you had compassion on that person this week?
- How does God’s love for you change your perspective on loving others around you?

PRAY WITH EACH OTHER (5-15 MINUTES)

- Compassion is love in action. This week, pray that God will open your eyes to see people as He sees them so that you can treat people the way He treats them.