



**1 Corinthians 13:13**

*And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.*

**Week #2**

COMPASSION is love greater than apathy.

**Matthew 15:21-23a**

*Leaving that place, Jesus withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon. A Canaanite woman from that vicinity came to him, crying out, "Lord, Son of David, have mercy on me! My daughter is demon possessed and suffering badly." Jesus did not answer a word.*

**Matthew 10:8**

*"Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse those who have leprosy, drive out demons. Freely you have received, freely give."*

**Matthew 15:23b**

*So his disciples came to him and urged him, "Send her away, for she keeps crying out after us."*

The disciples mistakenly thought the journey with Jesus was all about THEM.

### **Matthew 15:24-28**

*He answered, "I was sent to only the lost sheep of Israel." The woman came and knelt before him, "Lord, help me," she said. He replied, "It is not right to take the children's bread and feed it to the dogs." "Yes it is, Lord," she said. "Even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their master's table." Jesus said to her, "Woman, you have great faith! Your request is granted." And her daughter was healed at that moment.*

Jesus intentionally preserved and restored the woman's DIGNITY.

#### Some thoughts on compassion:

- :: We are all in need of COMPASSION.
- :: Compassion is not about US.
- :: Compassion engages THE WHOLE.
- :: Compassion is not COMPLETE.

### **So What? Now What?**

#### **James 4:17 [NET]**

*Whoever knows what is good to do  
and does not do it is guilty of sin.*

- :: REPENT of the sin of apathy.
- :: COMMIT to Faith Promise giving.

**NOTES:**

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## **How to start a relationship with Jesus:**

- 1) Admit that you, like everyone else, are a sinner.
- 2) Ask for forgiveness from God.
- 3) Start a relationship with God by trusting in Jesus as Savior and Lord.

You can do that right now by simply talking to God in a prayer like this:

***Dear Lord Jesus: I know I am a sinner, and I ask for your forgiveness. I believe you died for my sins and rose from the dead. I trust and follow you as my Lord and Savior. Guide my life and help me to do your will. I give all I am to all of you. In your name I pray, amen.***

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## **For Further Reflection:**

:: Take a moment to re-read Matthew 15:21-28.

:: What surprises you about this passage? What do you find especially challenging?

:: What do you think the woman who approached Jesus felt throughout her experience in the passage?

:: Why do you think the disciples responded the way they did in verse 23? How does this response reveal their priorities?

:: Why is it significant that Jesus traveled for two days to have this interaction? What does it show us about His heart for every person?

:: Read Matthew 6:19-21.

:: How have you experienced the truth that our hearts follow our treasure (and not necessarily the other way around)?

:: What does it look like for you to live into compassion this week?



Unless otherwise noted, today's Scripture is from the New International Version [NIV].  
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