



The Challenge of Compassion

RELATE

What from Rob's sermon on making compassion our compass moved, convicted, or inspired you?

What part of Indianapolis do you avoid because it is unsafe? Would you stop to help a distressed person in this area? Why or why not?

When has someone gone out of his or her way to help you?

READ & REFLECT

Luke 10:25-37 **Matthew 25:31-40** **James 2:8-9, 17**

Describe what is going on between Jesus and the lawyer in verses 25-29. Why would the lawyer test Jesus by asking a question he already had a good answer for? Why might the lawyer want to justify himself by asking "And who is my neighbor?" after Jesus said, "Love your neighbor and you will live?"

Why does Jesus answer the lawyer's question with a story rather than a straight answer (v. 30)? How does the story answer both of the lawyer's questions? Is Jesus saying compassionate service to those in need gives us eternal life? Compare this with the Matthew and James passages.

With whom do you identify most in the Luke account? With whom does Jesus identify in the parable of the sheep and the goats in Matthew 25? What does this say about how we become like Jesus?

Check the results of the study on the effects of outreach on churches (on the back). What surprises you? How do you think helping those in need or different from us grows us spiritually?

Who do you avoid because you disagree with or disapprove of their beliefs or behavior? What would it look like to take a step towards them? What keeps us from doing that?

What immoral or unloving acts by those who say they know Christ create tension for those who don't know Him? How can we do better?

How is Outlook's ministry at IPS 105 and the Post and 42nd neighborhood similar to the parable of the Good Samaritan? How is it different? Martin Luther King Jr. said the Samaritan would ask, "What will happen to them if we don't help them?" What do you think will happen to those kids?

RESPOND

Act Circle one area of service at IPS 105 you (or your group) could participate in: after-school youth sports; in-room tutoring; lunches for teachers; evening youth group at Meadowlark Apts.; summer reading/play program; staff Christmas store; staff special event; provide supplies.

Memorize "The King will reply, 'What I'm about to tell you is true. Anything you did for one of the least important of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.' **Matthew 25:40**

POSITIVE EFFECTS OF OUTREACH FOR CHURCHES

62%

Sense of maturing discipleship among those involved

35%

More previously unchurched people attending services

25%

Increased number of congregants

41%

Increased number of volunteers involved in outreach ministries

32%

Increased number of volunteers overall