



Compassion Sunday

May 17-23, 2026

Describe an experience of being the receiver of another person's generosity or benevolence. What impact did that person make in your life? How did you see Jesus through his/her compassion?

READ [MATTHEW 9:35-38](#).

The opening paragraph of this section describes Jesus' ministry approach. Jesus did not limit His mission and thus demonstrated His message is intended for all people. His great love and concern for people became the driving force for His prayer that God would call and send others to extend the work.

What motivated Jesus to minister to the people in the ways that He did ([v. 36](#))?

What steps can we take to bring Jesus' compassion to people who are weary and worn out?

Because of Jesus' compassion for the people, He looked on them as sheep abandoned by their shepherd. God had directed the leaders of Israel to care for the people. But instead of caring for them, the religious leaders neglected and abused them. They imposed heavy religious obligations on the people who already carried heavy spiritual and physical burdens. Israel's shepherds neglected God's people ([Ezekiel 34](#)); nobody seemed to care for them. But Jesus, the Shepherd of the sheep, had come. He cared and even gave His life on the cross for the sheep. Today He sends out Christians to join in and to continue His work.

**Do you believe the harvest is truly plentiful?
What implications should that reality have on your life?**

FAITH IN ACTION

**What does it mean to labor in the field where God has placed you?
What does this look like for you?**

Where do you sense God calling you to give to help further His kingdom growth in our city?