Ponder Jesus' Compassion

Reflections,
prayers,
scripture, and
recorded new hymns
for
public worship and
personal devotions

from the series:

Fresh Views of Timeless Truths

Ken Bible

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Matthew 11:2-6

(NASB)

Now when John, while imprisoned, heard of the works of Christ, he sent word by his disciples and said to Him, "Are You the Expected One, or shall we look for someone else?"

Jesus answered and said to them,
"Go and report to John what you hear and see:
the blind receive sight and
the lame walk,
the lepers are cleansed and
the deaf hear,
the dead are raised up, and
the poor have the gospel preached to them.
And blessed is he who does not take offense at Me."

Ferocious Love

Transcendent Father, unseen God,

You longed for us to know You.

You let us touch You with our senses

in creation and

at Mt. Sinai,

through the tabernacle and

through Your prophets.

But all the while You promised to share Yourself fully through

a person who was to come,

a man filled with Your own Spirit.

This specially Anointed One, this Messiah, would

live among us and

rule over us.

His Kingdom would extend

through every nation and

through all time.

He would bring all the blessings You had ever promised.

As the centuries passed, Your promises of this Messiah became

increasingly detailed and vivid.

We longed for His coming.

But when He arrived, we didn't recognize Him.

He was not what we expected.

You are Almighty God, and

Messiah was to be Your full revelation of Yourself.

We expected Him to be

a commanding leader,

a powerful warrior,

an unstoppable conqueror.

We thought He would be like a roaring lion that

no one would dare challenge.

We thought He would be fearfully holy and

bring fiery judgment to all the wicked.

But instead, He arrived as the weakest and lowliest of all human creatures -

a helpless infant born of

an unmarried peasant girl.

He wasn't a king – not what we considered a king.

There wasn't anything regal about Him.

He was a rural laborer with an accent to match.

```
He wasn't a mighty warrior.
      He was a gentle healer,
             a teacher with little formal education.
He didn't live in a palace.
      He was a homeless wanderer.
His holiness wasn't fearful or awe-inspiring.
      He befriended sinners, whom respectable people avoided.
      He socialized with them and received them warmly.
      The only people He condemned were
             the ones we considered the most religious.
      He scolded them for their pride and hypocrisy.
This Messiah didn't prowl and roar like a lion.
      In the end, He died like a lamb,
             meek.
             silent, and
             defenseless.
He gave us a living picture of You,
      but You were not who we expected.
We expected to experience Your
      fiery,
      ferocious,
      all-conquering power.
Instead, we experienced Your
      fiery,
      ferocious,
```

all-conquering love.

Hymn recording: All-conquering Love

All-conquering Love

Song of Solomon 8:6; Isaiah 25:8; Jeremiah 31:3; John 3:16; 8:58; 19:30; Ephesians 2:4-5; Philippians 2:5-8; Hebrews 10:10; 1 John 3:1; 4:9-10; Revelation 5:1-6



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John 4:1-26

(NASB)

Therefore when the Lord knew that the Pharisees had heard that Jesus was making and baptizing more disciples than John (although Jesus Himself was not baptizing, but His disciples were), He left Judea and went away again into Galilee. And He had to pass through Samaria. So He came to a city of Samaria called Sychar, near the parcel of ground that Jacob gave to his son Joseph; and Jacob's well was there. So Jesus, being wearied from His journey, was sitting thus by the well. It was about the sixth hour.

There came a woman of Samaria to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give Me a drink." For His disciples had gone away into the city to buy food. Therefore the Samaritan woman said to Him, "How is it that You, being a Jew, ask me for a drink since I am a Samaritan woman?" (For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans.)

Jesus answered and said to her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is who says to you, 'Give Me a drink,' you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water." She said to Him, "Sir, You have nothing to draw with and the well is deep; where then do You get that living water? You are not greater than our father Jacob, are You, who gave us the well, and drank of it himself and his sons and his cattle?"

Jesus answered and said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will thirst again; but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him shall never thirst; but the water that I will give him will become in him a well of water springing up to eternal life."

The woman said to Him, "Sir, give me this water, so I will not be thirsty nor come all the way here to draw." He said to her, "Go, call your husband and come here." The woman answered and said, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You have correctly said, 'I have no husband'; for you have had five husbands, and the one whom you now have is not your husband; this you have said truly."

The woman said to Him, "Sir, I perceive that You are a prophet. Our fathers worshiped in this mountain, and you people say that in Jerusalem is the place where men ought to worship." Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe Me, an hour is coming when neither in this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But an hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for such people the Father seeks to be His worshipers. God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth."

The woman said to Him, "I know that Messiah is coming (He who is called Christ); when that One comes, He will declare all things to us." Jesus said to her, "I who speak to you am He."

Living Water

Jesus, we're like
the woman You met at the well.
You come to us with promises so lofty
we barely understand them.
It's hard for us to believe that
You can provide anything greater than
what we already have and seek.

We're like the pigs in Matthew 7:6 –

"Do not throw your pearls before swine,
or they will trample them under their feet,
and turn and tear you to pieces." (NASB)
You offer us pearls.
We find we can't eat them,
so we trample them as worthless.

But Lord,
if we simply taste the water You offer,
we find that we want nothing else.
Nothing else we have ever desired
has satisfied us.
We have always ended up thirsty.
But more and more,
we want only You.

Lord, we are thirsty. Give us this water.

Father, I come to You now as I have always been: empty, helpless, and totally dependent on You.

Hymn recording: Psalms 42-43

Psalms 42-43

Tune: Jesus Calls Us (GALILEE, alt.)



WORDS: Ken Bible MUSIC: William H. Jude (1887) and Ken Bible GALILEE 2

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8.7.8.7.

Luke 17:11-19

(NASB)

While He was on the way to Jerusalem, He was passing between Samaria and Galilee. As He entered a village, ten leprous men who stood at a distance met Him; and they raised their voices, saying, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!"

When He saw them, He said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they were going, they were cleansed.

Now one of them, when he saw that he had been healed, turned back, glorifying God with a loud voice, and he fell on his face at His feet, giving thanks to Him. And he was a Samaritan.

Then Jesus answered and said, "Were there not ten cleansed? But the nine—where are they? Was no one found who returned to give glory to God, except this foreigner?" And He said to him, "Stand up and go; your faith has made you well."

Our Deeper Need

They were desperate.

Ten were gripped by the physical and social suffering of leprosy. In hope they came and cried out, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!"

They saw no immediate healing, but He told them to go and show themselves to the priest.

That was what a leper would have to do if he or she claimed to be cleansed. As they obeyed, they were healed.

Nine apparently had what they wanted from God. He had been a way to make their life their own again. They had their healing, so they were gone.

One of them thought about God

and about the Man who had brought Him near.

He thought about His great goodness,

about the mercy asked and received.

Somehow he had just met the Living God.

His marvelous compassion was now real and personal.

How could he just walk away?

He had to run and bow to Him.

He had to cry out and thank Him.

He had to worship Him with all his heart and soul.

For him, God's gift was not the end.

It was a beginning.

He had to respond to Him.

He had to come.

Father, Your work on our behalf goes on in realms and realities beyond our perception.
You love us, redeem us, and bless us in ways we cannot fully comprehend.
As we trust You,
You shower us with all Your best.

Hymn recording: A Thankful Heart

A Thankful Heart

TUNE: O WALY, WALY



WORDS: Ken Bible, inspired by George Herbert (17th c.)

MUSIC: English Folk Melody

O WALY WALY L.M.

Alt. Tunes: GERMANY, OLD 100th

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Matthew 9:35-36

(NASB)

Jesus was going through all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every kind of disease and every kind of sickness.

Seeing the people, He felt compassion for them, because they were distressed and dispirited like sheep without a shepherd.

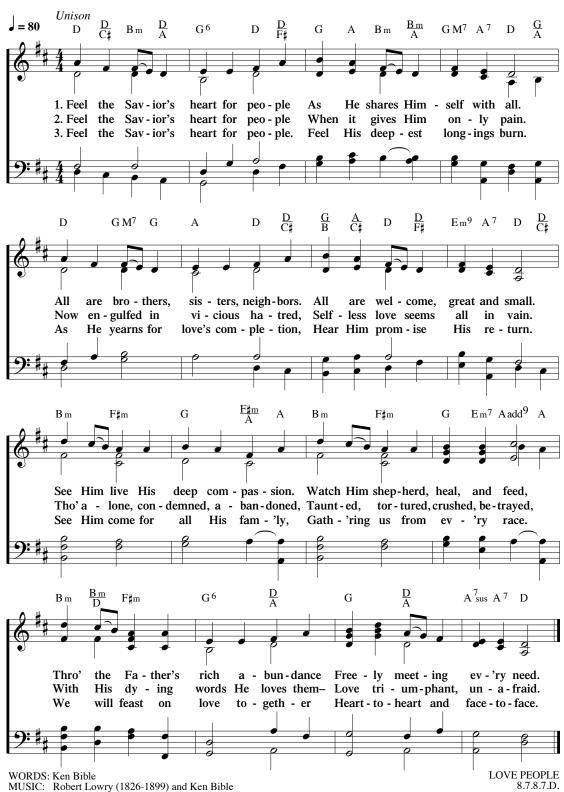
Jesus' Heart for People

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Look at the life of Jesus and
       see His great heart for people!
He was homeless, owning only the clothes on His back,
      yet He lived in His Father's limitless abundance and
      shared it freely with all He touched.
He interacted with the highest and lowest of people,
       receiving each one warmly.
He taught.
He healed.
He fed thousands.
He forgave sin.
He raised the dead.
He freed individuals from the evil that had bound them so unmercifully.
He gave of Himself without reserve.
He was repaid for His generosity with hatred,
      anger,
      torture, and
       a cruel death.
Yet even when His love for people brought Him only pain,
      He didn't grow bitter.
      He didn't hold back.
Betrayed, abandoned, and abused,
       He continued to love with His dying breath.
He left us with a promise.
His deep, burning love will bring Him back again
      to gather all His people to Himself.
He will be one with them
      fully,
      finally, and
      forever.
```

Hymn recording: Feel the Savior's Heart for People

Feel the Savior's Heart for People

Deuteronomy 15:7-11; Psalm 41; Matthew 8:11; 9:35-36; 24:30-31; 26:36-75; 27:1-54; Mark 13:26-27; 14:32-72; 15:1-39; Luke 21:27-28; 22:39-71; 23:1-49; John 18; 19:1-30



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Luke 5:17-26

(NASB)

One day He was teaching; and there were some Pharisees and teachers of the law sitting there, who had come from every village of Galilee and Judea and from Jerusalem; and the power of the Lord was present for Him to perform healing.

And some men were carrying on a bed a man who was paralyzed; and they were trying to bring him in and to set him down in front of Him. But not finding any way to bring him in because of the crowd, they went up on the roof and let him down through the tiles with his stretcher, into the middle of the crowd, in front of Jesus.

Seeing their faith, He said, "Friend, your sins are forgiven you." The scribes and the Pharisees began to reason, saying, "Who is this man who speaks blasphemies? Who can forgive sins, but God alone?" But Jesus, aware of their reasonings, answered and said to them, "Why are you reasoning in your hearts? Which is easier, to say, 'Your sins have been forgiven you,' or to say, 'Get up and walk'? But, so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins,"—He said to the paralytic—"I say to you, get up, and pick up your stretcher and go home."

Immediately he got up before them, and picked up what he had been lying on, and went home glorifying God. They were all struck with astonishment and began glorifying God; and they were filled with fear, saying, "We have seen remarkable things today."

One by One

```
Our magnificent God created the entire physical universe
      with a word.
His sovereignty is so complete that
      He simply expresses His will, and
      matter obeys.
When Jesus came,
      surely He could have healed the same way.
With just a word He could have healed
      an entire village,
      an entire nation,
      the whole world.
But He did not.
He healed personally,
      individually,
      one by one.
He healed in many different ways.
Healing was not a technique but
      a personal exchange.
He always established personal contact
with the one requesting the healing,
      whether with the needy person or
      with their representative
             (sick people often can't speak for themselves).
From the petitioner, there was
      an expression of faith.
Then from Jesus,
      a word.
      a look.
      sometimes a touch - and
a changed life.
Jesus shared the Father's love
      person to person,
      face to face.
How else could you fully express such a
      deep,
      personal,
      intimate love?
```

He calls us,
 His servants and friends,
to express God's love the same way to
each of His loved ones all around us:
 person to person,
 one by one.

Father, help me not to respond to people by label or category, but as individuals, as Your unique creations.

Hymn recording: One by One



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Luke 7:11-17

(NASB)

Soon afterwards [Jesus] went to a city called Nain; and His disciples were going along with Him, accompanied by a large crowd.

Now as He approached the gate of the city, a dead man was being carried out, the only son of his mother, and she was a widow; and a sizeable crowd from the city was with her.

When the Lord saw her, He felt compassion for her, and said to her, "Do not weep." And He came up and touched the coffin; and the bearers came to a halt. And He said, "Young man, I say to you, arise!" The dead man sat up and began to speak. And Jesus gave him back to his mother.

Fear gripped them all, and they began glorifying God, saying, "A great prophet has arisen among us!" and, "God has visited His people!" This report concerning Him went out all over Judea and in all the surrounding district.

Stay in Touch

When the Lord saw her, his heart went out to her (Luke 7:13, NIV).

Often I walk through this world in a shell.

I see people,

but I don't see their needs.

I hear them,

but I don't listen to what they're expressing.

I'm just not tuned in.

I'm wrapped up in myself, encased in my own concerns.

When Jesus was here, He truly saw people.

He listened to them.

He touched them.

He was "moved with compassion."

And according to the Scriptures,

whenever Jesus was "moved with compassion," He did something to meet their need.

I am not Jesus.

but I can have His love.

I can see and hear the people around me.

I can be "moved with compassion."

I can reach out in the love of Christ

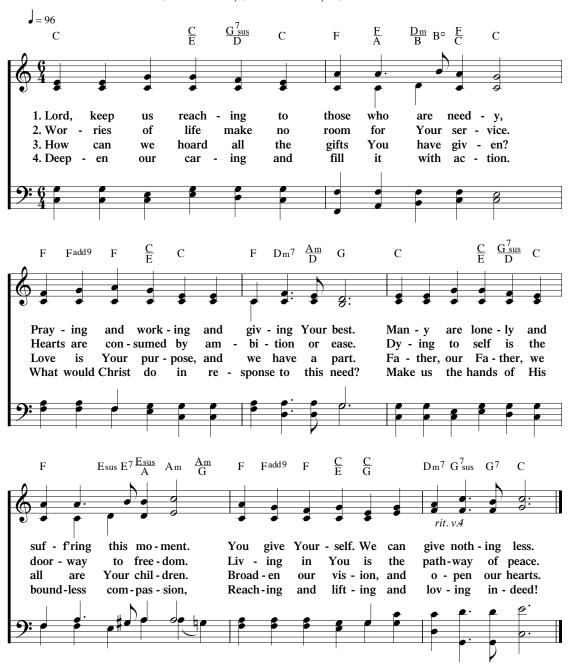
to help meet their needs.

Father,
bless my dear loved ones.
Bless them with
active,
sensitive,
self-giving love
from me.

Hymn recording: Lord, Keep Us Reaching

Lord, Keep Us Reaching

Deuteronomy 15:7-11; Mark 4:18-20; John 4:35-36; James 2:15-16; 1 John 3:16-18



WORDS & MUSIC: Ken Bible

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Luke 5:27-32

(NASB)

After that [Jesus] went out and noticed a tax collector named Levi sitting in the tax booth, and He said to him, "Follow Me." And he left everything behind, and got up and began to follow Him.

And Levi gave a big reception for Him in his house; and there was a great crowd of tax collectors and other people who were reclining at the table with them. The Pharisees and their scribes began grumbling at His disciples, saying, "Why do you eat and drink with the tax collectors and sinners?"

And Jesus answered and said to them, "It is not those who are well who need a physician, but those who are sick. I have not come to call the righteous but sinners to repentance."

Individuals, Not Issues

If you really keep the royal law found in Scripture, "Love your neighbor as yourself," you are doing right. (James 2:8, NIV)

I remember when my brother first told us he was gay. For a while, homosexuality itself was the issue. He was anxious for us to understand him and be open to his viewpoint. We wanted him to know that we didn't read the Bible that way.

But eventually, we moved beyond dealing with homosexuality as an issue and got down to personal relationships. The real question for me became, "How do I treat my brother who is gay?"

The answer soon became obvious: I love him like a brother. That's my sole responsibility toward him. It's really that simple.

Then the broader question for me, and for all of us, is, "How do we treat our 'neighbors' who are gay?" And again the answer is simple and obvious: we love them like neighbors. We love them as we love ourselves. We love them as Christ loved us.

The natural concern may be, "But aren't we obligated to let them know we don't condone their life-style?" Believe me, gays are deeply and painfully aware that many of us don't approve of them. They don't need reminders.

The real question for us is, "Have we shown them that Christ likes them and loves them, personally and unconditionally?"

When Jesus was on earth, He was accused of being a friend to those considered morally repulsive. "Religious" people wouldn't get near them, but He hung around with them, went to their parties, and in general seemed to like them and care about them. And they liked Him and gladly listened to Him.

While we tend to focus on issues and overlook individuals, Christ did the opposite. He looked past politics and concentrated on persons.

In that spirit, my point is not political or social, but personal. Our responsibility is not to try to change people. We are not responsible to try to convert homosexuals into heterosexuals. Our challenge is first and foremost to be Christ-like so that people are attracted to Him. And we can't do that as long as we are fearfully shaking our fingers in their faces.

Nothing should ever distract us from showing that genuine, face-to-face love of Christ. Nothing. He is the force that changes hearts, not laws.

Do I pray for my brother? Of course. Daily. I pray for him just as I pray for all those I love: that he would experience all the riches and fruitfulness of Jesus Christ.

Hymn recording: Our Father's Burning Heart

Our Father's Burning Heart Tune: SUSSEX CAROL



WORDS: Ken Bible MUSIC: Traditional English Carol; arr. by Ken Bible SUSSEX CAROL 8.8.8.8.8.8.

Alt. Tune: MELITA

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Scarred

Sometimes things happen to us that are so profoundly painful that they change us. We realize one day that we are not the person we once were. Further, we can't find the strength to be the person we want to be. We are scarred. We are crippled. We are broken.

Is there hope for people like us? Or is healing only for the healthy, and wholeness only for the whole? Does mercy flow only to the righteous and the holy? Did the Savior come to bleed and die only for the good, the capable, and the just?

When John saw Jesus coming, this is how he introduced Him: "Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!" (John 1:29, NIV)

Centuries before Jesus was born, Isaiah described Him this way:

He was...rejected by men, a man of sorrows, and familiar with suffering. Like one from whom men hide their faces he was despised...He was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities...and by his wounds we are healed. (Isaiah 53:3, 5, NIV)

Messiah would tenderly care for His people, especially the weak ones:

He tends his flock like a shepherd: He gathers the lambs in his arms and carries them close to his heart. (Isaiah 40:11, NIV)

During His ministry, Jesus summarized Himself in these words from the prophet Isaiah: The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is on me, because the Lord has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners...to comfort all who mourn, and provide for those who grieve...a crown of beauty instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, and a garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair. They will be called oaks of righteousness, a planting of the Lord for the display of his splendor. (Isaiah 61:1-3, NIV)

Jesus invited all the weak and needy to come to Him and find relief:

"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls." (Matthew 11:28-29, NIV)

The Apostle Paul repeatedly prayed that God would take away a serious weakness that plagued him. This is how the Lord answered him:

"My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me...For when I am weak, then I am strong. (2 Corinthians 12:7-10, NIV)

Paul learned God uses our weaknesses to glorify Himself:

We have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us. (2 Corinthians 4:7, NIV)

Therefore, since have a great high priest who has gone through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet was without sin. Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need. (Hebrews 4:14-16, NIV)

Hymn recording: Our Healer

Our Healer

TUNE: What Child Is This? (GREENSLEEVES)

Matthew 9:20-22; Mark 5:24b-34; Luke 8:42b-48; James 5:14-16



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Mark 7:24-30

(NASB)

Jesus got up and went away from there to the region of Tyre. And when He had entered a house, He wanted no one to know of it; yet He could not escape notice.

But after hearing of Him, a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately came and fell at His feet. Now the woman was a Gentile, of the Syrophoenician race. And she kept asking Him to cast the demon out of her daughter. And He was saying to her, "Let the children be satisfied first, for it is not good to take the children's bread and throw it to the dogs."

But she answered and said to Him, "Yes, Lord, but even the dogs under the table feed on the children's crumbs." And He said to her, "Because of this answer go; the demon has gone out of your daughter."

And going back to her home, she found the child lying on the bed, the demon having left.

When I Met Jesus

As I read the gospels and watch individuals interact with Jesus, I see myself.

I was the foreign woman, an outsider and totally unworthy of Him. I had no right to even approach Him, but I had nowhere else to turn. What could I do? So I ran to Him and just fell at His feet and begged. He looked into my face, smiled, and took away my need completely. (Mark 7:24-30)

I was the leper who cried out to Jesus from a distance, "Have pity on me!" And He did! He certainly did! Now I am well and whole, and I have friends and family again. I have a beautiful, brand-new life, all because of Him! (Luke 17:12-19)

I was blind and in a pit of despair. One day, sitting there in my darkness, I heard that Jesus was nearby. I cried out to Him, hoping He would hear, "Jesus, have mercy on me! Have mercy on me!" They tried to silence me, but I knew this was my last chance. I kept screaming, "Jesus, Jesus, have mercy on me!" And do you know what He did? He stopped and called me over to Himself. He touched me, healed me, and now I can see! I can see! (Mark 10:46-52)

I was the woman at the well. No matter who was around, I felt so alone. I was trapped by my weaknesses and disgraced by my own choices. But Jesus came to me and talked to me, so patiently, respectfully, and kindly. Now I am a different person, just because I met Him. How I love Him! (John 4)

Hymn recording: I Was the One

I Was the One

Luke 8:43-48; 17:11-19; 18:35-42; 23:35; John 4:1-26

Warm gospel feel = 116



WORDS: Ken Bible MUSIC: Mosie Lister

I WAS THE ONE 11.10.10.10.w. Ref.

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Matthew 14:22-33

(NIV)

Immediately Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead of him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowd.

After he had dismissed them.

he went up on a mountainside by himself to pray.

Later that night, he was there alone,

and the boat was already a considerable distance from land,

buffeted by the waves

because the wind was against it.

Shortly before dawn Jesus went out to them,

walking on the lake.

When the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified. "It's a ghost," they said, and cried out in fear.

But Jesus immediately said to them:

"Take courage! It is I.

Don't be afraid."

"Lord, if it's you," Peter replied,

"tell me to come to you on the water."

"Come," he said.

Then Peter got down out of the boat,

walked on the water and

came toward Jesus.

But when he saw the wind,

he was afraid and,

beginning to sink, cried out,

"Lord, save me!"

Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him.

"You of little faith," he said,

"why did you doubt?"

And when they climbed into the boat,

the wind died down.

Then those who were in the boat worshiped him, saying,

"Truly you are the Son of God."

He Comes to Us

When God's loved ones are in need, nothing can keep Him away.

He came to us on the Sea of Galilee in the midst of the storm.

He came to us on Golgotha.

He will come to us on that final day on clouds with great power and glory.

Nothing can separate God from His people, and nothing can separate us from His love.

Hymn recording: See Him Walk on the Water

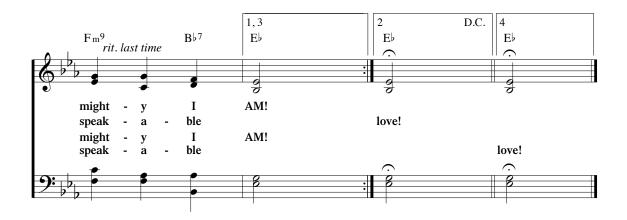
See Him Walk on the Water

Matthew 14:22-33; Mark 6:45-52; John 6:16-21



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Luke 18:35-43

(NASB)

As Jesus was approaching Jericho, a blind man was sitting by the road begging.

Now hearing a crowd going by, he began to inquire what this was. They told him that Jesus of Nazareth was passing by.

And he called out, saying,

"Jesus, Son of David,
have mercy on me!"

Those who led the way were sternly telling him to be quiet;
but he kept crying out all the more,
"Son of David,
have mercy on me!"

And Jesus stopped and commanded that
he be brought to Him;
and when he came near,
He questioned him,
"What do you want Me to do for you?"
And he said,
"Lord, I want to regain my sight!"

And Jesus said to him,

"Receive your sight;

your faith has made you well."

Immediately he regained his sight and began following Him, glorifying God; and when all the people saw it, they gave praise to God.

The Blind Man of Jericho

What if you were the blind man, doomed to spend every day begging as life went on around you? Then suddenly you learn that your only hope for healing is passing nearby, right now, at this very moment. A once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. "Jesus . . . have mercy on me!" (Luke 18:38, NIV)

It was a cry of weakness and need, of complete helplessness. "Jesus, I'm desperate! Please notice me! Help me! Lord, care about me!"

Have you ever noticed what happens when someone speaks too loudly or has an emotional outburst that seems inappropriate? It disrupts decorum, and the whole atmosphere becomes tense. Everyone is suddenly uncomfortable . . . and annoyed. Those who led the way rebuked him and told him to be quiet. (V. 39, NIV)

But he was desperate, so he yelled even louder and more insistently: "Son of David, have mercy on me!" (v. 39, NIV)

This cry arose from the depths of his heart, all the way up through his being. Propriety, reputation, and embarrassment didn't matter. Nothing else mattered. He was in the presence of One who could give him his sight. "Jesus, HELP ME!"

We can approach God like that man. All of us have felt some measure of what the blind man felt before God: crushing need, helplessness, desperation. When you feel that way, cry out to God. He is not offended by honesty, no matter how brutal. Read the Gospels. Read the Psalms. He honors faith.

Jesus said to him, "Receive your sight; your faith has healed you." (V. 42, NIV)

No poverty should make us too ashamed to come to God. Whether the need is moral or emotional, large or small, you are welcome in His presence. You are an invited guest. And He will look you straight in the eye, straight in the heart, and work in your life. He may not act according to your plan or on your timetable, but trust Him through your pain. His wisdom and love will prove themselves perfect. He received his sight and followed Jesus, praising God. When all the people saw it, they also praised God. (V. 43, NIV)

Hymn recording: <u>From These Depths</u>, <u>O Lord</u>

From These Depths, O Lord



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Scriptures on Jesus' Sorrow

(NASB)

John 11:32-36

(at the raising of Lazarus)

Therefore, when Mary came where Jesus was, she saw Him, and fell at His feet, saying to Him, "Lord, if You had been here, my brother would not have died." When Jesus therefore saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, He was deeply moved in spirit and was troubled, and said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to Him, "Lord, come and see." Jesus wept. So the Jews were saying, "See how He loved him!"

Luke 19:41-44

When [Jesus] approached Jerusalem, He saw the city and wept over it, saying, "If you had known in this day, even you, the things which make for peace! But now they have been hidden from your eyes. For the days will come upon you when your enemies will throw up a barricade against you, and surround you and hem you in on every side, and they will level you to the ground and your children within you, and they will not leave in you one stone upon another, because you did not recognize the time of your visitation."

Luke 13:1-5

Now on the same occasion there were some present who reported to Him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mixed with their sacrifices. And Jesus said to them, "Do you suppose that these Galileans were greater sinners than all other Galileans because they suffered this fate? I tell you, no, but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish. Or do you suppose that those eighteen on whom the tower in Siloam fell and killed them were worse culprits than all the men who live in Jerusalem? I tell you, no, but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish."

Jesus Weeps for the Unrepentant

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Jesus knew that He was about to raise Lazarus from the dead.

But surrounded by the deep grief of His friends,
    Jesus wept. (John 11:32-36)

His heart grieves
    with those He loves.

After entering Jerusalem in triumph,
    Jesus wept over the city.

He knew the horrific price its people would pay for
    rejecting their Messiah and
    refusing to repent.

When Jesus was told of the violent death of Jews at the hands of Pilate,
He replied,
    "Unless you repent, you will all likewise perish." (Luke 13:3, NASB)
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Name any tragedy in our
violent, unjust world, and
a worse tragedy is the fate of those who
live and
die forever
without
ever
knowing
God.
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Jesus weeps.

Hymn recording: <u>Jesus Weeps for the Unrepentant</u>

Jesus Weeps for the Unrepentant

Job 14:1-2; Luke 13:1-5, 34-35; 19:41-44; 23:28-31; John 11:33-35; Philippians 3:18; James 4:8-10; 5:1



WORDS & MUSIC: Ken Bible PASTOR SHAWN 7.7.4.4.7.

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Give Me Your Heart

A Prayer

Jesus, burden me with what burdens You. Make me willing to suffer for that for which You suffered.

Help me find joy in what brings You joy and weep when You weep.

Teach me to despise what You despised and reject all the lesser things You rejected.

Give me a passion for what impassions You.

Lord Jesus. Give me Your heart for the Father.

Hymn recording: Listen to Love

Listen to Love

James 2:15-16; 1 John 3:16-18



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Glimpses of Dying Love

(NASB)

John 13:1

Now before the Feast of the Passover, Jesus knowing that His hour had come that He would depart out of this world to the Father, having loved His own who were in the world, He loved them to the end.

Matthew 26:36-39

Then Jesus came with them to a place called Gethsemane, and said to His disciples, "Sit here while I go over there and pray." And He took with Him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and began to be grieved and distressed. Then He said to them, "My soul is deeply grieved, to the point of death; remain here and keep watch with Me."

And He went a little beyond them, and fell on His face and prayed, saying, "My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; yet not as I will, but as You will."

Luke 23:26-31

When they led [Jesus] away, they seized a man, Simon of Cyrene, coming in from the country, and placed on him the cross to carry behind Jesus.

And following Him was a large crowd of the people, and of women who were mourning and lamenting Him. But Jesus turning to them said, "Daughters of Jerusalem, stop weeping for Me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. For behold, the days are coming when they will say, 'Blessed are the barren, and the wombs that never bore, and the breasts that never nursed.' Then they will begin to say to the mountains, 'Fall on us,' and to the hills, 'Cover us.' For if they do these things when the tree is green, what will happen when it is dry?"

Luke 23:32-34

Two others also, who were criminals, were being led away to be put to death with Him.

When they came to the place called The Skull, there they crucified Him and the criminals, one on the right and the other on the left. But Jesus was saying, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing." And they cast lots, dividing up His garments among themselves.

Unchanging Faithfulness and Unfailing Love

```
You prove with
      every word,
      every moment
that You embody
      truth and
      grace.
You are
       unchanging faithfulness and
       unfailing love.
Even when the ultimate love demands
      the ultimate sacrifice,
even when Your compassion brings You
      utter anguish,
You do not flinch.
Even then You are
      unchanging faithfulness and
      unfailing love.
And when vicious hatred has done
      all it desired and
You are sealed in a
      stone-cold tomb,
death itself is no match for Your
      explosive,
      irrepressible life.
You rise in all Your glory,
showing Yourself to be
      unchanging faithfulness and
      unfailing love.
Praise to You, God of
      truth and
      grace!
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Jesus, Son of the Father,

Word of God made flesh,

Hymn recording: Great Is Your Faithfulness (Easter)

Great Is Your Faithfulness (Easter)

TUNE: Great Is Thy Faithfulness (FAITHFULNESS)

Lamentations 3:22-23; Matthew 26:32 – 28:10;

Mark 14:32 – 16:8; Luke 22:39 – 24:12; John 1:14-17; 20:1-8



WORDS: Ken Bible and Thomas O. Chisholm (1866-1960) MUSIC: William M. Runyan (1870-1957) FAITHFULNESS 11.10.11.10.w.Ref.

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