

Lesson 10 - Living the Gospel: Guided by Compassion and Mercy

The Beatitudes reflects the core meaning of Jesus' message of the Reign of God.

1. How Does Compassion Look?

Answer: Jesus is our model for compassion.

Compassion, as Jesus seemed to explain, is:

- the willingness to feel with another, especially in their pain, &
- the ability to work toward the relief or resolution of a difficulty.

2. How can we show compassion to others?

Answer: We can show compassion to other through the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy

Corporal Works of Mercy

- * feeding the hungry
- * giving drink to the thirsty
- * clothing the naked
- * visiting the imprisoned
- * sheltering the homeless
- * visiting the sick
- * burying the dead

Spiritual Works of Mercy

- * warning the sinner
- * instructing the ignorant
- * counselling the doubtful
- * comforting the sorrowful
- * bearing wrongs patiently
- * forgiving all injuries
- * praying for the living and the dead

3. What is the work of reconciliation?

Answer: At times, all of us, even the most faithful Christians, fail to live out, Jesus' message of love, compassion, and mercy.

When we fall short of living the Gospel and perhaps even hurt the people, we love the most, we must find a way to heal that pain and start over. That is the work of reconciliation.

4. What steps are required to reconcile the wrong done?

Answer: In order to reconcile the wrong done, we need to:

1. **"Name it"** - identify the wrong-doing
2. **"Claim it"** - assume responsibility for your part.
3. **"Change it"** - identify the steps that need to be taken to make a change.

E.g - Stealing

1. **"Name it"** – You and your friend acknowledge that you have stolen something and endangered others' life or well-being.
2. **"Claim it"** – You and your friend admit that you are responsible for the theft and for creating the dangerous situation.
3. **"Change it"** – You and your friend return the sign to authorities. You face penalties for the theft. You seek ways to help yourselves and each other to avoid future similar activities.

