**ARE YOU A COMPASSIONATE PERSON?**

**SCRIPTURE READING…**

**MARK 6:34 *“And when He went ashore, He saw a great multitude, and He felt compassion for them because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and He began to teach them many things”.***

 ***I heard it said the recently that how you feel about the lost will determine the teaching you give them.*Beloved, We all need to have compassion for the souls of those we know and come in contact with.
Introduction
Something to really understand is that…Jesus Christ came to this earth to seek and save the lost.
Therefore we as His followers, should make it our purpose to become engaged in His work with Him as He directs our lives from His throne in heaven.**

 **This portion of scripture helps us to understand that in order for us to participate in the salvation of the lost with our Lord, we must actually feel what He felt, see what He saw, and do what He did.

The text says that He “was moved with compassion for them”
This alone expresses how He felt about them.
The word Compassion is defined by Webster’s Dictionary as “a sympathetic consciousness of the condition of others with a desire to help and alleviate their situation.”
The gospel accounts show us that when He was here on earth, Christ had compassion for people in many and various circumstances:

Let us take a look at the Compassion For The Lost that Jesus showed us!
On this occasion, Christ felt compassion in His heart because people were in a lost condition.
He had His consciousness full of sympathy with a desire to wanting to do something about it.
He felt very sorry for them.
His heart really ached for them.
The apostle Paul also had a great compassion and concern for the lost:**

# ***Acts 20:18-19*,**

***18And when they were come to him, he said unto them, Ye know, from the first day that I came into Asia, after what manner I have been with you at all seasons,19Serving the Lord with all humility of mind, and with many tears, and temptations, which befell me by the lying in wait of the Jews:***

***Romans 10:1-3 Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is, that they might be saved.2For I bear them record that they have a zeal of God, but not according to knowledge.3For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and going about to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God.***

**(he wept for the lost—prayed for the lost).

Do you have this kind of compassion for the lost?
*2 Thessalonians 1:7-9*7*And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels,8In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ:9Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power;***

**Do you realize that the lost are precious souls who are out of fellowship with God and doomed to everlasting punishment because of sin unless they come in obedience to Christ and receive forgiveness of sins?**

 **Truth is: We won’t attempt to save the lost with Jesus unless we first feel compassion on them because of the seriousness of their condition.

Then the question here is ….Why Have Compassion On Them?**

 **Actually we should ask, But why did Jesus have compassion on these people, and why should we have compassion on the lost?
Well, let’s look at this verse and see what it says …“they were as sheep not having a shepherd.”
One of the notable characteristics of sheep is that they have a tendency to go astray:**

***Isaiah 53:6; 6All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the Lord hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.***

**When Jesus came forth and saw this great multitude, He saw them as sheep not having a shepherd; as sheep who had gone astray.

But we also understand that He is the good Shepherd who came to seek the lost sheep:**

***Luke 15:1-7, Then drew near unto him all the publicans and sinners for to hear him.2And the Pharisees and scribes murmured, saying, This man receiveth sinners, and eateth with them.3And he spake this parable unto them, saying,4What man of you, having an hundred sheep, if he lose one of them, doth not leave the ninety and nine in the wilderness, and go after that which is lost, until he find it?5And when he hath found it, he layeth it on his shoulders, rejoicing.6And when he cometh home, he calleth together his friends and neighbours, saying unto them, Rejoice with me; for I have found my sheep which was lost.7I say unto you, that likewise joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth, more than over ninety and nine just persons, which need no repentance.***

***John 10:11 11I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep.***

**Beloved without a shepherd to protect them, sheep are exposed to dangers from all forms of predators.
This is what we need to see in the condition of people who don’t have Christ as their Shepherd;
They are lost !!! PLAIN AND SIMPLE!!
They are heading towards a pathway of hell and destruction!.

Beloved, If the Lord had Compassion on them, shouldn’t we?
You see, Without His protection, they’re in great spiritual danger:**

**1 Peter 5:8*. 8Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:*Do we see what Christ saw in them?
To help us save the lost with Jesus, we need to be impressed with the seriousness of the condition of those who don’t have Christ to shepherd them to safety in eternity.
That’s why we are called to …(“Bring Them In”) just leave out the cost!!

The real question here is What Did Jesus Do?
“He began to teach them many things.”
The response that came from Jesus’s compassion and His understanding of the people’s condition was that He began to teach them many things.
Obedience to God is not limited to a few specific rules to follow.
It takes a lifetime of effort to fulfill what God wants us to do.
Yes, there are many things we need to learn but it’s all in the bible!!

What Did Jesus Do?
It’s significant to notice what Jesus did NOT do
He didn’t entertain them;
He didn’t try to lure them with social attractions or fancy methods as bait to bring them in.
He didn’t seek to wow them with a charismatic personality although that was his trait in humbleness!
He simply instructed them in what they needed to know.

What Did Jesus Do?
First and foremost, let us also understand that Jesus was a heavenly sent preacher: not just some old guy of the block, filled with wisdom and knowledge sort to speak!
Matthew 4:1717**From that time Jesus began to preach, and to say, Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.

**, *2323And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all manner of sickness and all manner of disease among the people.***

**(yes, He healed people as a sign that His message was from God, but notice what is mentioned first indicating a place of greater importance—
He went teaching in the synagogues and preaching the gospel of the kingdom.

What else Did Jesus Do?
In addition, He sent His followers into the world to preach the gospel:**

***Mark 16:15-16;**15And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.16He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.*and that’s exactly what they did:**

***Acts 5:41-42*, *41And they departed from the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for his name.42And daily in the temple, and in every house, they ceased not to teach and preach Jesus Christ.***

**And that’s what He expects all Christians in every age to do:**

**2 Timothy 2:2. *2And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also.*
What Did Jesus Do?
The primary thing that we can do to be like Jesus in saving the lost is to teach them the gospel as we have the opportunity.
Not everyone can be a full-time preacher, but each of us must do what we can according to our ability and opportunity.

Conclusion *1 Peter 2:25—25For ye were as sheep going astray; but are now returned unto the Shepherd and Bishop of your souls.***

**each of us was at one time like sheep going astray, but because someone had compassion on us: they saw us as lost sheep in danger, and taught us God’s word,
We are now part of the Shepherd’s flock.
As Christians, we need to have the same goal as our Shepherd,
To seek and save those who are lost.
“Are you as compassionate a person” as you should be?**