

MESSAGE NOTES



Series: After the One
Message: The Compassion of Christ
Speaker: Rusty Coram
Date: November 2nd, 2025

³¹ Then Jesus said, "Let's go off by ourselves to a quiet place and rest awhile." He said this because there were so many people coming and going that Jesus and his apostles didn't even have time to eat.

³² So they left by boat for a quiet place, where they could be alone. ³³ But many people recognized them and saw them leaving, and people from many towns ran ahead along the shore and got there ahead of them. ³⁴ Jesus saw the huge crowd as he stepped from the boat, and he had compassion on them because they were like sheep without a shepherd. So he began teaching them many things."

Mark 6:31–34 (NLT)

Some lessons from this episode in Jesus' life:

Following God doesn't always appear to make sense.

God gives us opportunities that are sometimes very inconvenient.

Compassion is a choice, not merely a feeling.

"³⁴ Jesus saw the huge crowd as he stepped from the boat, and he had compassion on them because they were like sheep without a shepherd"

Mark 6:34 (NLT)

God uses struggles in our lives to equip and deploy us to show compassion.

"³ All praise to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is our merciful Father and the source of all comfort. ⁴ He comforts us in all our troubles so that we can comfort others. When they are troubled, we will be able to give them the same comfort God has given us. ⁵ For the more we suffer for Christ, the more God will shower us with his comfort through Christ. ⁶ Even when we are weighed down with troubles, it is for your comfort and salvation! For when we ourselves are comforted, we will certainly comfort you. Then you can patiently endure the same things we suffer. ⁷ We are confident that as you share in our sufferings, you will also share in the comfort God gives us."

2 Corinthians 1:3–7 (NLT)

BIBLE TRANSLATIONS:

NLT– New Living Translation

TAKE HOME SHEET



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Imagine you were in a situation similar to the one Jesus was in—read Mark chapter 6. He has been utterly rejected by the people in His hometown—6:1-6. Soon afterwards, His close friend and cousin, John the Baptist, is murdered – 6:14-29. Exhausted mentally and emotionally, He heads for a break, and we read 6:31-34. How do you think you would have reacted?

We know that Jesus regularly sought out His Father's will before acting, and certainly He did here. See Mark 1:35-38 for example.

When opportunities to show care and compassion come up, how do you decide whether to respond or not?

Are there times when saying “no” or “not now” is appropriate?

How has God used a painful struggle in your life to:

Show you God's compassion?

Build compassion in you for others?

Give others hope as they hear your story?