Care Like Jesus

Greg Kline · Matthew 21:12–17

INTRODUCTION

- Jesus says, judge not. Or as modern translations render it, do not judge.
- As Christians, we have to learn to care. We have to learn to care like Jesus did.

1 Jesus Aggressively Purged the Temple

Matthew 21:12–13; Ephesians 4:26

- He overturned the tables of the money changers and the seats of those who sold pigeons.
- As Paul would write, be angry and do not sin.
- Jesus cared so much that he was not just cleansing the temple, not just teaching everyone, hey, let's be better, let's all be friends. He aggressively purged the temple.

2 He Takes Time to Care for People

Matthew 21:14–15

- Jesus isn't on your side, he is the side.
- The blind and the lame came to him in the temple and he healed them.
- Do I care enough about people who otherwise go invisible to stop what I'm doing to care for them?
- He didn't care for them with good words. He cared for their physical needs.

3 Care, Think, and Act Like Jesus

Romans 12:9; Ephesians 4:25–32; Matthew 18:15

- If I'm going to be like Jesus, I have to care, think, and act like Jesus.
- Our culture wants us to decide we're on team compassion or team law, and neither of those belong to Jesus. He is both of them at the same time.
- Let love be without hypocrisy. Abhor what is evil, cling to what is good.
- Paul doesn't just expect us to never feel angry. He expects us to use it and to have it flare at the right moment.
- To care like Jesus means not only recognizing sin, it means recognizing souls.

4 We're Uncomfortable Making a Scene

Acts 17:16–17; Acts 17:22–32

- I don't get to just have a personality trait if Jesus says I have to have a modeled behavior.
- His spirit was provoked within him as he saw the city was full of idols.
- So he reasoned in the synagogue with the Jews and the devout persons in the marketplace every day with those who happened to be there.
- It doesn't have to be a punch in the face every time you see something you're uncomfortable with.

5 We Don't Really Hate Evil

Mark 2:15–17; Romans 12:9

- He says, they're sinful, and that's why I'm here. They need me.
- Did Jesus in any way endorse what they were doing or dip his toe in the water of what they were doing that was sinful? Not a chance.
- There is a huge difference between being in a room with someone as an ally and being in a room with someone as a messenger to Jesus Christ.
- Christians do not hate people. But we should hate sin. And we should be willing to have these uncomfortable conversations.

6 Show Emotion in Our Faithfulness

Luke 15:1–2; John 12:48

- We should be willing to show emotion in our faithfulness.
- Shouldn't we be excited that someone's soul that was lost is found?
- We don't show compassion for people because we've been trained not to feel it. Jesus felt compassion about sin and about people.
- Have compassion for people, have passion about what is evil.

THE CHALLENGE

My question right now is do you passionately care about people? And if you think it's yes, here's the test. In the past seven days, what have you done to show compassionate care for others? Bodily, or as we know, far more importantly, the soul.

MY NOTES