

# Community of Compassion

## Part 2: Living Authentically

### INTRODUCTION - BEING HOLY LIKE JESUS

Matthew 5:42-48; 9:36; 13:24-30; 14:14; Mark 12:28-31; John 4:3-42; 13:35;  
1 Thessalonians 3:12; Titus 3:1-2

*The only reputation we want ...*

*HOLINESS...*

### GOD'S POWER HOUSE

2 Corinthians 12:7-10

#### THE WEAKNESS OF POWER

Coercion .....  
Materialism .....  
Professionalism .....  
Consumerism .....  
Trendiness .....  
Marketing .....

#### THE POWER OF WEAKNESS

Servanthood (Mark 10:42-45)  
Sacrifice (Luke 9:23)  
Participation (Ephesians 4:11-16)  
Compassion (Matthew 25:31-46)  
Authenticity (James 5:16)  
Love (1 Corinthians 13:13)

### THE MEETING HOUSE - WHO WE ARE HERE FOR

Ultimately we are here for \_\_\_\_\_.

*Humanly, we as a church are here for:*

1. Spiritually seeking people who want to \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus.
2. Spiritually committed people who want to \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus.
3. Spiritually wounded people who need to \_\_\_\_\_ with Jesus.

### THE MEETING HOUSE - WHO WE DON'T HAVE ROOM FOR

*At The Meeting House, we don't have room for:*

1. Religious people who are more concerned with maintaining the \_\_\_\_\_ ways rather than returning to the \_\_\_\_\_ ways.
2. People who want Jesus to come to them as their Saviour but do not want to come to Him as their \_\_\_\_\_.
3. People who want to \_\_\_\_\_ this community without \_\_\_\_\_ this community.

### CONCLUSION - TWO STEPS YOU CAN TAKE TODAY...

Commit to:

1. Becoming a welcoming presence.
2. Engaging in a Home Church.

#### RECOMMENDED READING:

*Reclaiming God's Original Intent for the Church*, by Wes Roberts & Glenn Marshall

### HOME CHURCH QUESTIONS

#### WARMING UP...

1. After briefly reviewing this week's message, share one new thing you learned or one thing that most challenged, convicted, or encouraged you.
2. Explore and discuss any or all of these quotations: a) Soren Kierkegaard: *The greatest danger to Christianity is, I contend, not heresies, but the kind of orthodoxy which is cordial drivel, mediocrity served up sweet. The very essence of Christianity is utterly opposed to this mediocrity.* b) Gregory Boyd: *There is nothing, absolutely nothing, that should ever displace the command to love as the first and foremost concern of the disciple of Jesus - no doctrine, no ethical principle, no personal agenda, and no exceptions.* c) Glenn Marshall: *People should be able to look at the church and see what it's like to live under the reign of God. The People of our day need more than tight, logical arguments and proof. They need to see a demonstration of the kingdom lived out before them so that they might see, experience, and enter it.* d) Henri Nouwen: *I am learning that the best cure for hypocrisy is community. Hypocrisy is not so much the result of not living what I preach but much more of not confessing my inability to fully live up to my own words.*

#### LOOK TO THE BOOK...

3. Review each of the Scriptures listed under the "Power Of Weakness" chart. a) Which passage stands out to you the most or seems most relevant to your life now? Why? b) For each passage, describe what that root principle might look like if fully lived out in your Home Church context.

#### TALK IS CHEAP...

4. Take a few moments (3-4 minutes) to meditate on that one passage you identified in #3-a. Focus on how your life might change if you lived out that principle with complete passion. If you want, talk about any new insights you gain through this exercise. (Take time this week, daily if possible, to return to this passage for longer meditation.)

#### SO WHAT?...

5. What is one practical, specific thing you could do this week to help yourself grow in compassion? Pray for each other regarding this.

Bruxy Cavey @ THE MEETING HOUSE - Sunday, September 19 / 26, 2004

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