

Introduction: Varying Circumstances

Key Bible Texts: 1 Peter 5:5-7; Matthew 11:28-30

A. Hardships, Dilemmas, Crisis and Challenges Are Universal

1. Extended Personal Histories (Mark 10:46-52)
2. From the Outcasts to the Privileged (Matthew 8:1-13)
3. From Ongoing to Sudden Crisis (Matthew 9:18-26)

B. Reaction and Responses Vary

1. Helpful – Who Cares? – Interested / Hopeful
2. Harmful – Who Cares? – Cynical / Despairing

C. Roots and Remedy

1. The Cause: Boundaries **Rejected** (Gen. 3:6)
2. The Cure: Boundaries **Offered** (John 8:10-11)
3. The Call: Boundaries **Accepted** (Matt. 11:28-39)
4. The Challenges: Boundaries **Tested** (Luke 17:33)
5. The Caring Corporation: Kingdom Boundaries **Extended**
(2 Cor. 5:18; 1 Pet. 5:5-7)

D. William Booth (Founder of Salvation Army) dramatized vision.
“From Drowning to Apathy”

E. Call to Respond

1. What barriers do people face that might prevent them from showing “they care”? What practical steps would you recommend to overcome those barriers?
2. In what ways were you personally challenged by the message?
3. How might God be calling you to be a more active part in the Christ’s Caring Corporation?
4. Pray with and for 3 people in your group to be more active in demonstrating the care of Christ.

PRAY!