

Introduction: Raising Children

Key Bible Texts: Matthew 9:35-38

A. “Compassion” (Matthew 9:36)

1. In God’s Nature (Psalm 116:5; 145:8)
2. Common Context and Resulting Actions (Judges 2:18; Neh. 9:28)
3. Emotion Driven vs. Rational Thinking (Greek: esplanchnisthē)

B. “Sheep without a Shepherd” (Matthew 9:36)

1. Examples of Historical Contexts (Ezekiel 34:5; Zechariah 10:2)
2. Frame of Reference vs Geographical Location

C. Further Understanding and Today’s Relevance

1. Jewish Political and Religious Climate of Jesus’ Day
2. Jewish Nation’s Expectation of a Messiah (Deliverer)
3. Jesus’ Biblical “Mission” (Matt. 1:21-22; John 1:29; Luke 4:18-19)

D. Implications

1. Godly Compassion is motivational for us to help people align their lives with what is right in God’s eyes.
2. Sheep without a Shepherd abound. (Matthew 9:37)
3. Miracles, Signs and Wonders (Matthew 9:6)
4. Presenting Jesus as the “Good” Shepherd (John 10:11)

1. If Godly Compassion is designed to lead us out of trouble, can you share about a time when this was true for you?

2. When seeing someone in trouble and in need of Godly wisdom, circle your level of compassionate feelings: None/Little Intermediate Tons. Discuss with group.

3. In what ways do you see people around you like “sheep without a shepherd”? How might “compassion” affect your actions toward them?

4. Read Matthew 9:1-8. We (Charisma) hold that miracles still take place today. Based on the sermon, which is the act of compassion ... the healing or the forgiveness of sins? Explain.

5. Read Matthew 9:9-13. Do you believe Jesus was compassionate toward Matthew? Why? Describe Jesus’ behavior in verses 10-13. What was His motivation? If this is an example of what “workers in the harvest fields” do, how can we pray for one another to do similar things?

6. What is one thing you sensed, felt or “heard” the Lord emphasize to you? In what practical way could you respond?

PRAY